Tanong ng Bayan / A24
Winston sa GSIS, atbp.
Oras na bang bumaba?
Win a 21" TV! Text 2910 now!

■ Motoring / C7
BMW Philippines president lets his guard down

■ World / A11
Bush, Kerry gear up for final debate Thursday morning (Manila time)

■ Metro / A23
P10-M drug lab busted in Parañaque

■ Entertainment / A32
Oyo Boy tells Dina's suitors: Stay away

General confined at UST hospital's 5-star ward

BAKA LUMALA ANG SAKIT SA LAKI NG GASTOS!

By Christian Esguerra

NO CHARITY ward for this guy.

Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, the former Armed Forces comptroller currently in the eye of the storm on suspi-

GENERAL/ A22

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Crude oil hits new all-time high, breaches $54/barrel

SINGAPORE—Crude oil prices breached the US$54 mark on Tuesday to reach a new all-time high, fueled by continuing worries over supply in Nigeria and reduced output in the hurricane-hobbled Gulf of Mexico.

Traders were also concerned over troubled Russian oil giant Yukos, which has been hit with a fresh tax bill that could derail output amid

CRUDE/ A21

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
Wednesday, October 13, 2004 ★★ 68 pages / 5 sections / vol. 19 / no. 308 P18
website: www.inq7.net

US asks RP: Hold Garcia

Says general's green card should be confiscated

By Jerome Aning and TJ Burgonio

THE UNITED States has asked the Philippines to bar Maj. Gen. Carlos F. Garcia, who is at the center of a corruption scandal, from leaving the country.

It said Garcia, a former Armed Forces comptroller facing investigation for alleged unexplained wealth, was not entitled to the green card he was holding and asked Philippine immigration officials to confiscate it.

There was no explanation on why the United States would want to prevent Garcia's departure from the country. Keeping him in the Philippines would obviously spare both the US and Philippine governments the rigors of extradition proceedings if Garcia did try to go to the United States and contest the accusations against him.

Immigration Commissioner Alipio Fernandez Jr. yesterday said that the US government spelled out its position on the Garcia case in a communication he received from the US Embassy in Manila.

Fernandez was attending a budget hearing in Congress at press time and was expected to sign the order placing Garcia on the immigration watch list later in the day.

"Mr. Garcia is not a permanent resident of the US and should not be allowed to travel on his green card," Ravinder Jaspal, Customs and Border Protection Officer at the US Em-

US ASKS RP/ A22

Finally, AFP sets Garcia court-martial

By Alcuin Papa and Christine O. Avendaño

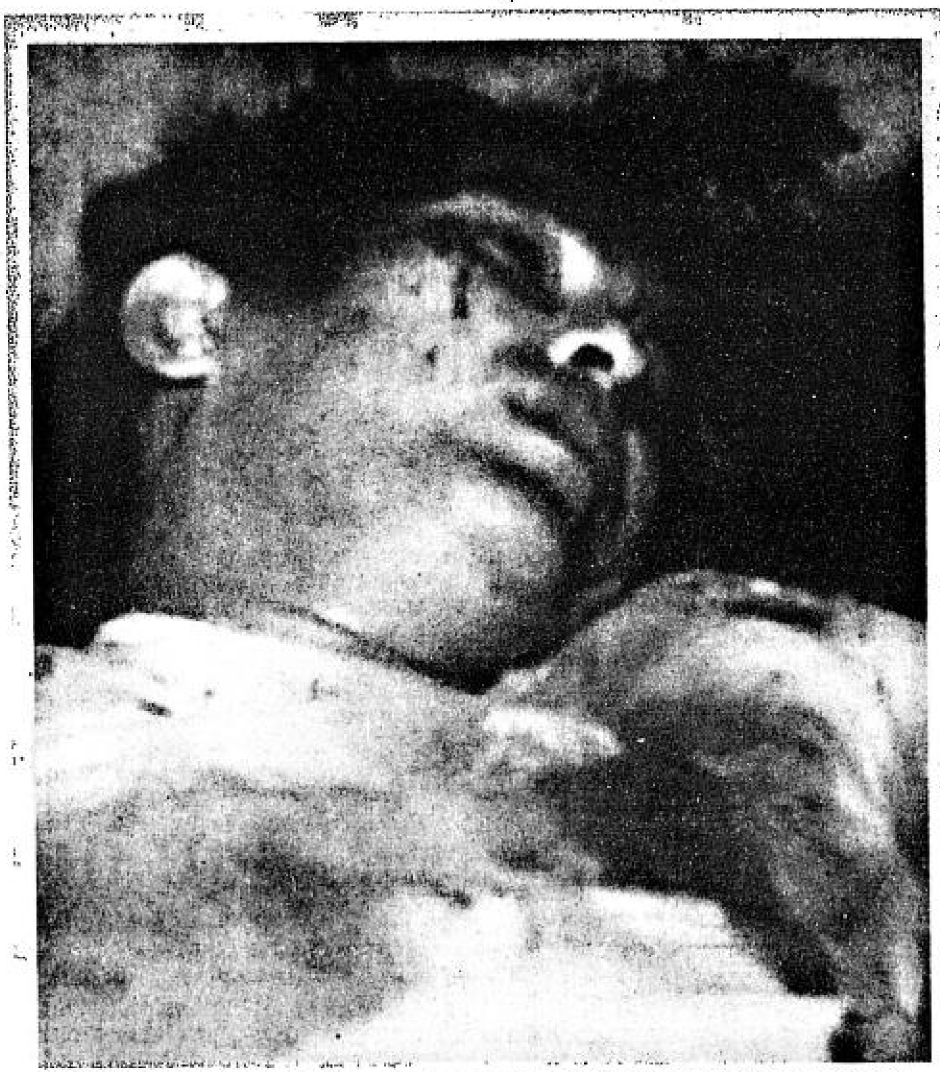
AFTER being accused of handling Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia with kid gloves, the Armed Forces of the Philippines announced yesterday that the former comptroller of the AFP would be court-martialed for allegedly amassing ill-gotten wealth.

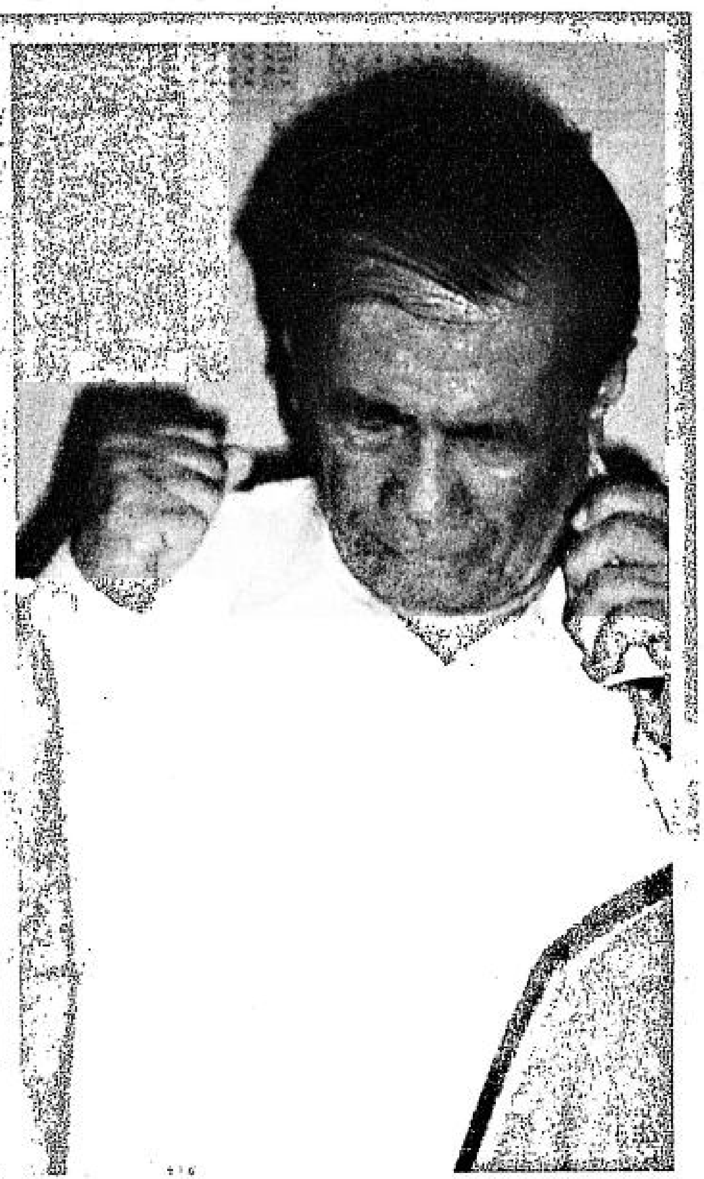
The AFP also ordered that Garcia be confined to quarters until he faces a military tribunal.

Maj. Gen. Edilberto Adan, AFP deputy chief of staff, said the charges would be "separate and distinct" from those Garcia was facing before the Office of the Ombudsman.

The Office of the Ombudsman has filed charges of dishonesty, gross misconduct and

FINALLY/ A22





IN COLD BLOOD. Evelio Javier, gunned down near the Antique Provincial Capitol on Feb. 11, 1986, became a rallying symbol of the struggle to end the Marcos dictatorship. The suspected mastermind Arturo Pacificador (right), shown here rejoicing in court after his acquittal on Tuesday, has been ordered immediately released from detention. NESTOR BURGOS JR/PDI VISAYAS BUREAU

Pacificador cleared of Javier murder

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

SAN JOSE, Antique—After 18 years, the suspected mastermind of the brutal murder of Evelio Javier will walk free.

Arturo Pacificador, a former assemblyman and ally of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, yesterday raised his fists in jubilation after hearing the Antique Regional Trial Court acquit him and three of his co-accused in the 1986 murder of Javier and the wounding of five others.

In a 113-page decision that took more than six hours to read, Judge Rudy Castrojas, presiding judge of RTC Branch 12, ordered the immediate release from detention of Pacificador, Jimmy Punzalan, Jose Seguerra and Oscar Tiauson.

Castrojas said the prosecution had failed to prove that Pacificador had masterminded the killing of his political rival and ex-governor of Antique. The killing on Feb. 11, 1986 sparked outrage and galvanized the Church into condemning the "snap" election as violent and fraudulent. *(See sidebar on Page A8.)*

The court, however, found Pacificador's lawyer Avelino Javellana and seven others, mostly security men of the former assemblyman, guilty of Javier's murder.

Javellana and former Constabulary Capt. John Paloy, Vicente Vegafria, Ramon Hortillano, Henry Salaver, Eleazar Idemne and Rolando Bernardino were sentenced to life imprisonment. Henry Seguerra was sentenced from 6 to 14 years in jail for be-

PACIFICADOR/ A8

'Ecleo man fits sketch of lawyer's killer'

By Leila B. Salaverria
and Jolene R. Bulambot
PDI Visayas Bureau

MURDERED lawyer Arbet Sta. Ana-Yongco may have been killed by a dismissed soldier who was once seen attending a hearing of the parricide case against cult leader Ruben Ecleo, the National Bureau of Investigation said yesterday.

Yongco was the private prosecutor in the parricide case.

Reynaldo Esmeralda, NBI director for Central Visayas, yesterday said the suspect's presence at the hearing could strengthen suspicions that Ecleo might be involved in the Monday murder.

"That is one of the angles that we are checking out," Esmeralda said in a phone interview.

Esmeralda said two witnesses had seen the gunman during a hearing of Ecleo's parricide case and had said that he was the same man in the artist's sketch released by authorities. The man also supposedly fit the description of witnesses at the crime scene.

Ecleo is out on P1-million bail. He is accused of killing his wife, Alona Bacolod, in 2002.

Yongco, who was shot dead in her house in Cebu City on Monday, was the

ECLEO/ A8

Senate told 50 billionaires not paying correct taxes

By Michael Lim Ubac

AT LEAST 50 billionaires in the country are not paying the proper taxes, according to an official of the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FFCCCI).

Testifying before the Senate ways and means committee, Guillermo de Joya disclosed yesterday that 50 billionaires were willing to come out into the open and declare their real net worth should the government push through with the tax amnesty.

The tax amnesty is one of the eight tax measures that Malacañang wants Congress to pass to raise P80 billion a year and help reduce the budget deficit.

Besides the billionaires' club, millionaire businessmen also want to start paying the correct taxes, De Joya said.

De Joya, a member of FFCCCI's tax and business advocacy committee, was referring to an estimated 7,500 "tax filers" with at least P100 million in net worth, and some 15,000 people with a minimum net worth of P50 million each.

"The interesting part is we (Chinese businessmen) all agreed that there is a lot of people engaged in the underground economy. We are interested to flush them out. We just estimate them to be at 20,000 at P1 million each. These are the ones you see in Divisoria," he said.

De Joya said not all of the businessmen were Filipinos. "Some are dummies of foreigners."

SENATE/ A21

6,000 docs vow to stay, serve here for 3 years

By Blanche S. Rivera

AT THE very least, the Philippines can count on 6,000 doctors staying put and serving the country for the next three years.

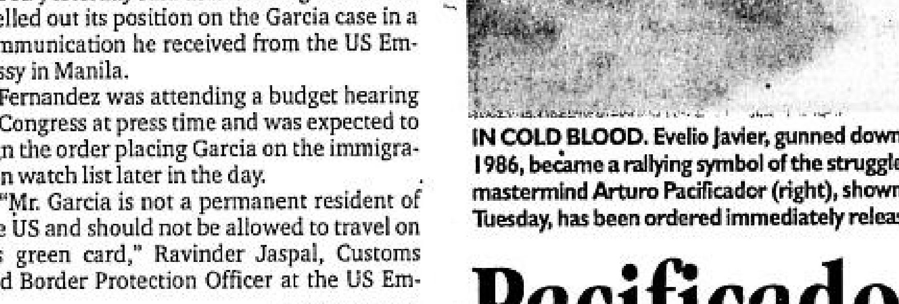
The Philippine College of Physicians, which accounts for 6,000 doctors, signed yesterday an unprecedented covenant pledging to train and practice in the Philippines for three years amid the departure of doctors who go abroad to work as nurses.

The doctors, represented by PCP president Adrian Peña, also made a commitment to devote time for charity work. For example, out of 10 paying patients, they would treat one charity patient or out of a month's practice, they would devote one day treating destitute patients for free.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit, who led the signing, said the covenant was proof of the true greatness of Filipino physicians.

"It's a kind of affirmation during this difficult time. Physicians are willing to do something positive in

6,000 DOCS/ A21


VAL HANDUMON

IDOL WANTS DAY OFF...
...But can't hit the beach during her two-week visit here, Jasmine Trias tells President Arroyo during a courtesy call at the Palace on Tuesday. ***(Story on Page A3)***

Second FRONTPAGE

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Central and Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG PDI RESEARCH/10/13/04

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	**Iloilo/Bacolod**	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	**Roxas**	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	**Cebu**	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	**Tacloban**	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	**Gen. Santos**	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	**Zamboanga**	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	**Cagayan de Oro**	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	**Davao**	Cloudy with Rains

Sy group asks SC to lift TRO

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE GROUP of retail tycoon Henry Sy wants the Supreme Court to lift its status quo order stopping the Social Security System from proceeding with the planned auction of its 29 percent stake in Equitable-PCIBank this month.

Sy-owned bank Banco de Oro Capital and Investment Corp. which earlier bought the shares in a negotiated deal late last year also argued that a public bidding of the SSS shares in Equitable was no longer necessary.

In a 62-page comment, BDO Capital said the high tribunal should lift the order since it would cause "grave and irreparable damage" to BDO Capital, the government, SSS and its members.

The high court issued a status order on Oct. 5 after five senators asked the tribunal to stop the scheduled auction on Oct. 20 for allegedly being disadvantageous to the government.

BDO said that it had "validly acquired rights and interests" over the SSS shares in Equitable after it reached a negotiated deal with SSS on Dec. 30, 2003.

Under the Dec. 30, 2003 letter agreement and a subsequent share purchase agreement, SSS agreed to sell its shares at P43.50 per share or P8,171,383,258.50, BDO Capital said.

The deal was, however, questioned after it was found that SSS sold the shares at a price much below its acquisition cost. Moreover, there was also no public bidding of the shares.

"Any violation of the proprietary rights of BDO Capital over the EPCIB shares amounts to a taking of property without due process," BDO Capital said.

"There is a perfected, valid and binding agreement by and between (SSS and BDO Capital), whereby SSS agreed to sell its 187,847,891 common shares in EPCIB constituting approximately 29 percent of the outstanding capital stock of EPCIB," it added.

BDO said the share purchase agreement was upheld by both the Commission on Audit and the Department of Justice.

In the event that a public bidding will be required, BDO Capital said it will exercise its right to match or top the highest bidder. It noted that even the high court had recognized that a right to top or match may be validly granted in a public auction.

BDO Capital said that this right is neither detrimental to public interest nor against the law.

But BDO said it was "grossly erroneous" to say that a public bidding was necessary in the sale of the SSS shares.

It noted that COA, in its circular 89-296, said that while public auction was the primary mode of divestment or disposal of government property, it does not apply to the disposal of "merchandise or inventory held primarily for sale in the regular course of business."

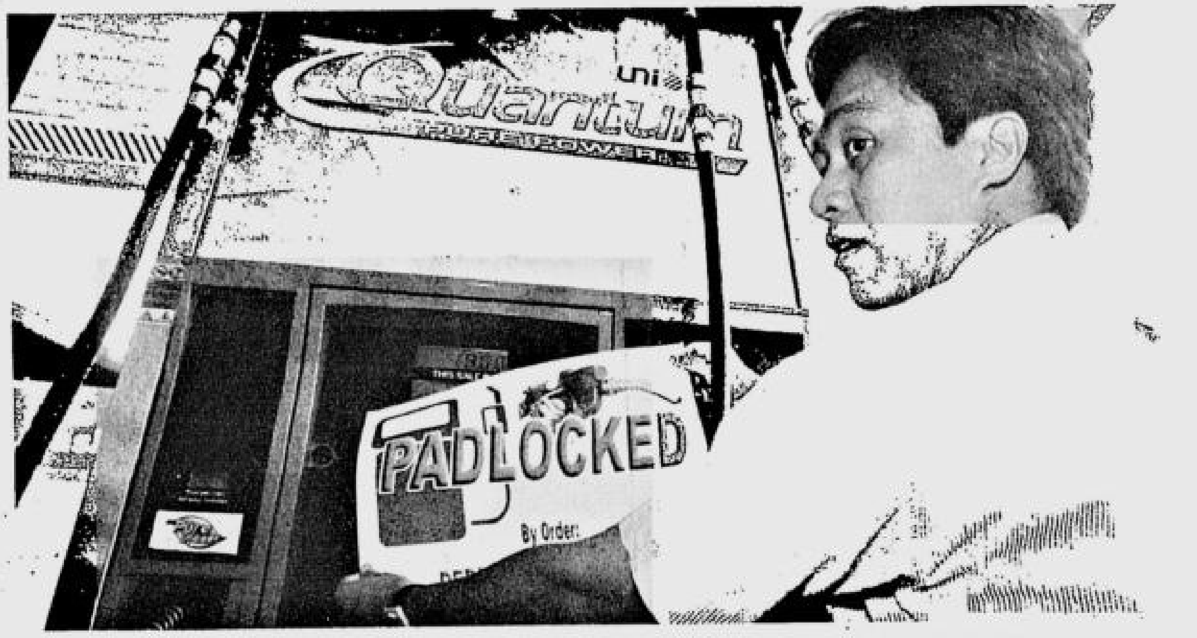
"SSS is a fund manager. It is authorized under its charter to engage in investment functions," BDO Capital said.

"It regularly trades shares of stock in the regular course of its business, such that the EPCIB shares clearly fall under the term 'merchandise or inventory held for sale in the ordinary course of business,'" it added.

BDO Capital also said the sale of the SSS stake at P43.50 per share is not disadvantageous to the government since, at that price, the shares were bought at a premium of 30 percent of their market price.

BDO Capital noted that the stocks could not be sold at P60 per share since its market price had varied from P16 in 2002 to P40 recently. It said the last time EPCIB shares hit P60 was in 1987.

"The only reason it is at the P40 level is because of the market's response to BDO Capital's price at P43.50," BDO Capital said.



CHEATING. Energy Secretary Vince Perez padlocks a fuel pump of a Unioil gas station in Manila for failing an octane rating check during a surprise inspection. The department has been conducting random tests to stop cheating at the pumps as gas prices continue soaring to record levels.

EPA

Petron hikes diesel, kerosene prices

FOLLOWING the lead of its competitors, industry leader Petron Corp. increased diesel and kerosene prices by 35 centavos a liter at 12:01 a.m. today.

Prices of its gasoline products, however, will stay the same, unlike those of its competitors, which hiked prices by 35 centavos a liter Monday.

Company officials said Petron management would continue to monitor the rise in international finished product prices before making a decision on when to adjust pump prices of gasoline and by how much.

But a gasoline price hike would likely take place some time next week, officials said.

The oil refiner, like other players in the market, attributed the increase in diesel and kerosene prices to high world market rates.

The price of MOPS-based unleaded gasoline averaged $53.96 a barrel in the Oct. 1-11 period, rising from the September average of $49.04 a barrel.

The price of MOPS-based diesel, on the other hand, continued to rise, soaring to an average of $55.67 a barrel in the Oct. 1-11 period from $54.29 a barrel last month.

STICK with UNIQUELY Singapore

Depart for Singapore between September 1 & November 15 and get a cool souvenir plus the chance to win a *Uniquely Singapore* Grand Prize!

All you have to do is purchase a roundtrip airticket with a minimum one night stay to Singapore on or before November 13, 2004, and depart between September 1 and November 15, 2004, to be part of the promo*.

Six (6)* Uniquely Singapore *Grand Prizes are up for grabs, each consisting of:

- **4 days/3 nights accommodation in a 5-star hotel for you and your partner**
- **Two roundtrip Economy Class airtickets**
- **S$1000 shopping money**
- **A *Uniquely Singapore* Experience**

Singapore has so much to offer!

You've always known Singapore as a great shopping destination, a place where you can find exquisite culinary delights and lots of wonderful sights. But did you know that Singapore is the only place where you can start the day sharing ***breakfast with an orang-utan*** and, if that's not enough, have a pulse-pounding ***reverse bungee jump experience***? Or spend the afternoon in a one-of-a-kind **DUCK*tour*** and cap the evening with a thrilling trek through a ***NIGHT SAFARI***?

And that's not all!

Singapore is also known for its year-round events, so find time to attend any one or two, or even three of these events lined up for you.

OCTOBER

01-31	Singapore JewelFest 2004: Flights of Desire
01-31	Crossroads: Collective Works of Second Generation Artists
01-31	Ju Ming 2004 Singapore-Beijing-Shanghai Asian Sculpture at its Best
01-31	MAMMA MIA!
01-31	Tan Swie Hian
01-03	Sing Song
05-07	Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
09-31	Hari Raya Light-Up
14-22	Navarathiri Festival
14-31	Pilgrimage to Kusu Island
15-31	Deepavali Light-Up 2004
24	Action Asia Challenge

NOVEMBER

01	Theemidhi Festival
01-30	Fabric of the Nation exhibition
01-30	Crossroads: Collective Works of Second Generation Artists
01-30	Ju Ming 2004 Singapore-Beijing-Shanghai Asian Sculpture at its Best
01-30	MAMMA MIA!
01-30	Tan Swie Hian
01-14	Deepavali Light-Up 2004
01-14	godeatgod
06-15	Disney Live! Winnie the Pooh and the Perfect Day
11-12	Dances of the Orient
11	Deepavali
13-21	Singapore International Buskers Festival
13-30	Christmas in the Tropics 2004
14	Hari Raya Puasa
15-21	Singapore Badminton Open
16-21	The Little Match Girl
20-21	Singapore River Regatta
20-30	Rumpelstiltskin
23-30	Sesame Street Live Everyone Makes Music
25	BONEY'M LIVE 2004
26-30	Warisan Kita Festival
26-30	Nickelodeon's Christmas by the Bay
26-30	Family Festival
27	Kavyarasa

DECEMBER

01-31	Fabric of the Nation exhibition
01-31	Crossroads: Collective Works of Second Generation Artists
01-31	Ju Ming 2004 Singapore-Beijing-Shanghai Asian Sculpture at its Best
01-31	MAMMA MIA!
01-31	Christmas in the Tropics 2004
01-03	Sesame Street Live Everyone Makes Music
01-04	Warisan Kita Festival
01-05	Family Festival
01-09	Nickelodeon's Christmas by the Bay
01-12	Rumpelstiltskin
01-19	Tan Swie Hian
05-12	40th AMF Bowling World Cup
05	Standard Chartered Singapore Marathon
08-31	Botero in Singapore 2004/05
10-26	European Flying Circus
31	Party On Singapore!

September 1 to November 15 is a great time to explore, experience and enjoy Singapore, so stick with us and call your favorite travel agent now!

UNIQUELY Singapore
visitsingapore.com

Singapore Tourism Board

Deadline for purchase of roundtrip airticket is on November 13, 2004 • Deadline for submission of entries is at 6pm on November 24, 2004
Souvenir can be claimed within 60 days after promo period • Grand Draw is on November 29, 2004!

*Promo is for Filipino travellers who are Metro Manila residents only • See flyer available at your travel agent for more details • Per DTI-NCR permit no. 1689 series of 2004

Cardinal Sin still in intensive care

By Blanche S. Rivera

RETIRED Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin is still in the intensive care unit of the Cardinal Santos Memorial Medical Center and is breathing through a respirator but his condition has stabilized, his office said yesterday.

The cardinal suffered an arrhythmia, or abnormal heartbeat, and subsequent hypertension and congestive heart failure while undergoing dialysis on Monday. His doctors declared his condition stable as of 11 a.m. yesterday.

"He is slowly being weaned off the respirator. His vital signs are normal. He is still under observation. We cannot yet definitely say how long he will stay in the hospital," said Sin's secretary, Fr. Rufino Sescon, at a press briefing at the cardinal's Villa San Miguel residence.

A team of doctors from Cardinal Santos, UST Hospital and Makati Medical Center is closely monitoring the prelate, an outspoken activist who was instrumental in the two people power revolts that ousted two Philippine presidents.

Sin, 76, complained of chest pains while undergoing regular dialysis at his residence at around 4 p.m. Monday. His doctors found that Sin's blood pressure had dropped toward the end of the dialysis and recommended that he be brought to the hospital.

Sin, who is suffering from kidney disease, undergoes dialysis three or four times a week. He has been confined to a wheelchair for about three years and needs assistance to stand and perform basic functions.

Sin was unconscious until Monday night but later was able to move his eyes to acknowledge his visitors, according to Sescon. He also moved his hands and even indicated that he wanted the respirator removed.

Sin suffered a mild stroke in April last year and was confined at the Cardinal Santos hospital for about a week.

Sescon said the cardinal was "upbeat" before his dialysis Monday and had a snack of *lugaw* (porridge) and vegetables.

"He was in high spirits prior to the incident," Sescon said. "He was looking forward to visiting the Cardinal Sin Village and seeing its completion."

DDB exec quits over Reyes style

By Nelson F. Flores

"HE CANNOT just move or order people around like soldiers in a battlefield."

Thus did Undersecretary and Dangerous Drugs Board Executive Director Jose Calida refer to his erstwhile boss, Interior Secretary and DDB Chair Angelo Reyes, as he announced his irrevocable resignation from the board yesterday.

Calida said he had tendered his resignation letter dated Oct. 11 to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

His differences with Reyes were fundamental, Calida said.

For instance, he said, the board is a collegial body but Reyes refused to "allow us to speak freely."

He said Reyes had a habit of making policy without the board's approval. In one incident, he said, Reyes unilaterally directed the DDB chemist to turn over European Union-donated equipment to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

Calida said Reyes seemed bent on dismembering the DDB by transferring a number of badly needed personnel to other government departments. He said Reyes ignored the fact that personnel could not be legally transferred to other government agencies without their consent.

One of these was the transfer of DDB personnel to the Department of Health without considering the laws governing the matter, Calida said.

"He (Reyes) may be the chair of the 12-man board but I was the executive director who had actual supervision and control over the 150-strong DDB employees," Calida said.

Calida was appointed justice undersecretary in March 2001 and DDB executive director in January this year. He took over the reigns of the board after Interior Secretary and DDB Chair Joey Lina resigned last July and until Reyes was appointed board officer-in-charge last month.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

AMERICAN IDOL'S 'HOMECOMING'

It's Jasmine Day in Cavite

By Marlon Ramos,
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau,
and Juliet Labog-Javellana

TANZA, Cavite—Jasmine Trias fans, both young and old, spilled out into the streets of this town on Monday to touch, wave or catch a glimpse of the American Idol finalist.

Young fans lined, no, filled the 25-km stretch of the motorcade route which started at 3 p.m. at the national road in Bacoor and ended just before dusk at the Arayata Sports Complex.

The motorcade took Trias to the towns of Kawit and Gen. Trias, a town named after famous revolutionary Mariano Trias, the first vice president of the country and who could very well be an ancestor of the pop princess.

This is Trias' first visit to the country of her parents Rudy Trias Jr. and Mora, who both hail from Tanza, Cavite. Trias and her siblings were born and raised in Hawaii.

Despite the motorcade's tight security, Trias made sure she reached out to all her fans. She tirelessly waved and sometimes even stopped to shake hands with delighted fans.

Organizers and local officials who sponsored her visit here were not only dazzled by the diminutive pop star, they were impressed by her humility.

Cavite Vice Gov. Johnvic Remulla, who led local officials in welcoming Trias, said over 500,000 people turned out to welcome the Fil-Am pop idol.

"The reception of the people was simply amazing. We are very proud that she is from Cavite and that she proudly acknowledges that," Remulla said.

Float or SUV?

The motorcade was momentarily delayed when Trias' mother reportedly refused to let her daughter ride the float, constructed for her by the telecommunications company that she endorses.

An organizer, who requested anonymity, said Trias' mother thought the float did not look sturdy.

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo poses with American Idol Jasmine Trias during yesterday's call at Malacañang.
MALACAÑANG PHOTO

A local politician saved the day by graciously lending his SUV with a sun-roof which Trias gratefully rode.

In Bacoor, Trias noticed a little boy in *sando* and shorts trying to catch up with the motorcade. She told the driver to stop, got candy from her bag and asked one of her bodyguards to give it to the little boy.

Cavite City Vice Mayor Dino Chua, who witnessed the whole thing, said: "She is really kind-hearted. She said she especially liked the students who waited a long time for her."

Trias was supposed to offer a wreath at the tomb of Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo at the Aguinaldo Shrine in Kawit but throngs of fans prevented her from going near the shrine. Instead, she left a wreath on the road near the site.

In Bacoor and Kawit towns, classes in some public and private schools had been suspended so students and teachers could welcome Trias.

In Tanza, Mayor Raymundo del Rosario declared Oct. 11 as "Jasmine Trias Day" and suspended classes and work in public and private offices. This allowed residents to gather at the Arayata Sports Complex as early as 10 a.m. to welcome their townmate.

"This is a historic moment for us. We have in our midst a very popular singer who traces her roots from our town. This is amazing," Del Rosario said.

Tanzeños, who filled the complex to the rafters, cheered when the program host announced the pop idol's arrival.

Trias, dressed in a silver-white top, performed her version of the Regine Velasquez song "Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw," which she also sings in one of her commercials.

An inspiration

After singing before an appreciative crowd, Trias went directly to SM Bacoor where she handed out school supplies and gifts to 30 selected scholars of a public elementary school in Cavite City.

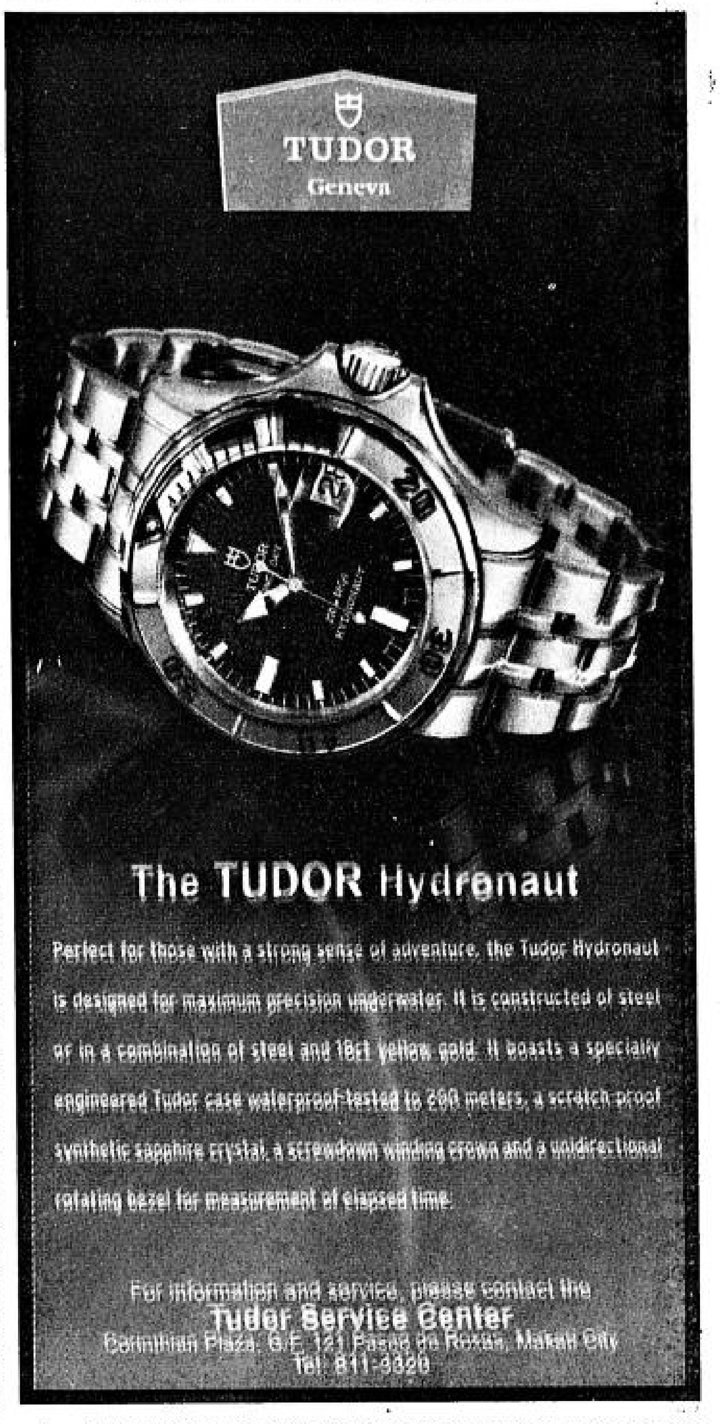
In the evening, she attended a testimonial dinner hosted for her by members of the Cavite Vice Mayors' League and the National Movement of Young Journalists-Cavite held at the Island Cove Resort in Binakayan in Kawit.

The two groups presented Trias with separate awards of recognition for "her triumph in the American Idol contest . . . and recognition of her ethnicity and ancestry here in Cavite."

"She is really humble despite her achievements. She is a good role model for her generation," Imus vice mayor Manny Maliksi said.

Trias called on President Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacañang yesterday, giving her autographed pictures, two boxes of macadamia nuts and an orchid similar to what she wore in her hair during the AI competitions.

Unlike other international stars who came to the Palace, Trias' visit was low-key. Only television cameramen and photographers were allowed to cover the brief visit at the Malacañang Music Room yesterday afternoon.


TUDOR Geneva

The TUDOR Hydronaut

Perfect for those with a strong sense of adventure, the Tudor Hydronaut is designed for maximum precision underwater. It is constructed of steel or in a combination of steel and 18ct yellow gold. It boasts a specially engineered Tudor case waterproof-tested to 200 meters, a scratch-proof synthetic sapphire crystal, a screwdown winding crown and a unidirectional rotating bezel for measurement of elapsed time.

For information and service, please contact the
Tudor Service Center
Corinthian Plaza, G/F, 121 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Tel. 811-3320

Education execs admit textbook errors, finally

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

EDUCATION officials have seen for themselves the numerous errors reportedly contained in the history textbook being used by second-year public high school students.

Their review revealed several factual and grammatical errors and errors of interpretation in "Asya: Noon, Ngayon at sa Hinaharap" published by SD Publications.

The review was spurred by Marian School supervisor Antonio Calipjo Go's exposé in the INQUIRER on Sept. 20.

Go said he had found 430 errors in the 316-page textbook.

In a follow-up INQUIRER ad yesterday, he said he found 363 errors in another DepEd textbook, "Kasaysayan ng Daigdig" also by SD Publications, for third-year high school students.

Asya was authored by Dr. Teofista Vivar, Evelina Viloria, Ruth Fuentes and the late Remedios Quiray. Vivar was also the lead author of the Kasaysayan textbook.

Textbook review

Go the other day also pointed out that two high school textbooks, "Science and Technology for the Modern World I and II" by Diwa Scholastic Press, were still in use three years after DepEd supposedly pulled them out for containing errors.

With Go's latest exposé, Education Secretary Florencio Abad yesterday gave the order "to review all existing textbooks in public high schools by external subject area experts.

"In the interest of quality education and for the welfare of our students, we deem it urgent and necessary to reexamine the contents of our textbooks, particularly in history, English, science and mathematics, most of which were released in 2000," Abad said in a statement.

Abad, who assumed office five weeks ago, said he also wanted to know why the two science textbooks were still in use.

In an interview yesterday, Abad strongly hinted that the Asya textbook did contain errors.

He said that by December, DepEd would come out with a teacher's guide that would contain all the corrections. He said SD Publications might be asked to pay for the correction guide.

Abad discounted the recall of the 1.14 million copies of the Asya textbook now in use.

"Once we have established what we want to establish, then we'll think about remedies," he said.

"(As for) the obligation of those who published it, I'm sure they have some. But we have to check with our lawyers so that when we issue the corrections, we [could] get their cooperation," he said.

List of errors

He then took Go to task for not furnishing the DepEd his list of errors.

Go had initially said he would only turn over his list after DepEd apologized for implying malice on his part in exposing the mistakes.

Then he set this demand aside and agreed to meet with the DepEd on Friday. But he changed his mind again, saying he could not completely trust the DepEd.

"We appreciate these things because it brings to our attention mistakes that should be corrected," Abad said. "But it would really be better if he invites us or informs us [about] these mistakes so we can sit down.

"We'll give credit where credit is due," Abad added.

Expressing "shock" over reports that Filipino students were learning from error-riddled textbooks, former senator and ex-United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) Commissioner Leticia Shahani said their writers should be "duly punished" if they had indeed gotten their facts wrong.

"Many of our textbooks are really substandard," Shahani noted in an interview with the INQUIRER during a Unesco-initiated program promoting space education in the country's schools.

"I'm really shocked. If it's true, our program today only shows how important accuracy and truth are," she said, after addressing about 100 high school students.

With Volt Contreras

Gonzalez wants Jalosjos back in jail

By Philip C. Tubeza

JUSTICE Secretary Raul Gonzalez yesterday sought the return of former Zamboanga Rep. Romeo Jalosjos to his cell at the New Bilibid Prisons in Muntinlupa if he is already well.

"If he is not sick, then there is no more valid reason for him to continue his stay (at the hospital). Otherwise, he would just be malingering," Gonzalez said.

Jalosjos, who is serving two life terms at the NBP in Muntinlupa for raping an 11-year-old girl in 1996, has informed Bureau of Corrections Director General Vicente Vinarao that he would not return to the NBP due to alleged death threats.

But Gonzalez said that alleged death threats are not valid reasons for Jalosjos' continued confinement at the Makati Medical Center, where the former lawmaker was brought after he suffered a heart attack on Oct. 2.

"Qualified doctors should find out his real condition. His fear for his life is not a ground for his continued stay at the hospital," Gonzalez said.

He explained that while convicts are allowed to be confined in hospitals outside the national penitentiary if the NBP medical facilities were not enough, their continued stay at the hospital could be justified only by medical reasons, Gonzalez said.

"Hospitalization is allowed when the facilities at the NBP are not sufficient. We've allowed dialysis before for inmates," Gonzalez said.

He said that the duration of a convict's stay outside the NBP would depend on the inmate's condition.

"He could be sick for one day and then recover or he could be sick for a month. It really depends on his condition," Gonzalez said.

Jalosjos was convicted by Makati City Judge Roberto Diokno on Dec. 12, 1997 on two counts of rape and six counts of acts of lasciviousness. He was sentenced to at least two life terms.

It's not just weight loss...
IT'S REAL FAT LOSS!

GET THE BODY ■ THE MARIE FRANCE BODY

Most women think that when it comes to slimming, it's only weight loss that counts. In their pursuit of losing more pounds quickly, they resort to drastic measures that compel them to drop their weight abruptly in less time. But they don't realize that their appearance and health are at stake: they become haggard-looking, more irritable and may experience hypertension, palpitations, nausea and vomiting.

At Marie France, we will help you lose weight sensibly, promote fat-loss in your problem areas and create sexy curves where fat bulges used to be. You'll soon enjoy your new, slimmer, healthier body: the Marie France Body! Our non-invasive slimming programme includes the Fat Mobilization System, a no-pain and no-strain body wrap treatment that is proven to increase metabolism to melt away fat. Real fat elimination and effective weight loss: it's the smart choice to achieve the body you really want

Lose ugly fat and extra pounds for real!
Call Marie France for a FREE Body Fat Analysis today

FREE 3 fat melting
Fat Mobilization Treatments
upon enrollment
only from Oct. 11-16, 2004!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 7237, Series of 2004

www.mariefrance.com.ph
Marie France Bodyline™

CALL 894-BODY (2639) BEST FOR EASY FAT LOSS

Erap was unfit to lead the country, claims Chavit

By Armand Nocum

ILOCOS Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson and ousted President Joseph Estrada seem bent on revealing the most intimate secrets of their 40-year friendship.

Yesterday, Singson, a member of Estrada's so-called "midnight Cabinet," revealed what Estrada's critics have said all along—that Estrada's nocturnal activities affected his ability to run the country's affairs.

In a statement, Singson said Estrada "would miss a number of important commitments and would just send representatives because it's either he spends [the] time playing mahjong with his drinking buddies known as his midnight Cabinet... or wake up late in the day because of his midnight activities."

"Certainly, Erap has no self-discipline, not fit to be at the top leadership. You're ruling a country and leading 70 million people and you're acting that way. Nothing would really happen to the country if you're like that. Such a lousy leadership," said Singson, who admitted having been a former member of Estrada's midnight Cabinet.

Singson met Estrada when the latter was still a movie actor and the two remained close until the year 2000 when—following what Singson believed was a foiled assassination attempt against him—the governor went public with bribes from the illegal numbers game of *jueteng* and the tobacco excise tax being paid to Estrada.

His exposé and testimony at Estrada's aborted impeachment trial resulted in the disgraced leader's eventual ouster and trial for corruption and plunder.

During his aborted term, Estrada vehemently denied the existence of the midnight Cabinet and was quite sensitive about the issue. He even fired his chief of staff, Aprodicio Laquian, for inadvertently confirming its existence.

The supposed informal Cabinet once included Singson, Caloocan Rep. Luis "Baby" Asistio, former congressman Mark Jimenez and businessmen William Gatchalian, Dante Tan, Ramon Lee, Jaime Dichaves and Lucio Lao Co. Estrada at one time called Co the biggest smuggler in the country.

In his statement, Singson who is the government's main witness in Estrada's plunder trial, accused Estrada's lawyers of presenting witnesses to discredit him and portray Estrada as the "underdog."

He said the people knew better than to believe an actor with a "so-so government."

Contacted by the INQUIRER, Estrada through his spokesperson Didagen Dilangalen, said Singson cannot be an authority on his supposed nocturnal Cabinet.

"He was just a gatecrasher," he said of Singson and again denied the existence of the midnight Cabinet.

Estrada said he met with his friends only a few times and that he did not miss any public engagements.

Robinsons Department Store

3 Day SALE

October 15 FRI until midnight 16 SAT 17 SUN

BIG, BIG discounts low, LOW prices

Up to 50% off on selected items

CHECK OUT our 2 in 1 & 3 in 1 PACKS for P49.00
Per DTI- NCR 4808 series of 2004

www.rds.com.ph
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.4808 Series of 2004
Fashion everyday

Robinsons Galleria Flagship Store
Robinsons Malls | Waltermart Malls | Tutuban Center | Starmall Shaw | Metropolis Star Alabang | Festival Mall Alabang | Nepo Mall Pampanga

Tiongson, playwright-director, dies

AWARD - WINNING playwright and director Lito Tiongson, who was diagnosed with lymphoma early this year, recently succumbed to pulmonary embolism, a complication that arose from his cancer. He passed away on Sunday.

He was 51.

Until his death, Tiongson taught at the UP College of Mass Communications in Diliman.

Tiongson worked with the Philippine Educational Theater Association (Peta) in the late 1970s, and won several awards in playwriting including the Carlos Palanca and Aurelio Tolentino literary awards.

As a filmmaker, in 1982 he directed the full length feature film "Hubad na Gubat." In 1985, he co-founded AsiaVisions Media Foundation, a non-profit film institute dedicated to the promotion of an alternative and independent cinema. An advocate of film as a medium for education and social change, Tiongson went on to write and direct socio-political documentaries with uncompromising commitment and incisive insight.

His works—"No Time for Crying," "Mendiola Massacre," "Beyond the Walls of Prison," "Lean" and "Fragments"—all garnered awards at the CCP Film and Video Festival Awards and the Film Academy of the Philippines (FAP). In 1997 he came out with "Batas Militar," which won both the Gawad-CCP and Golden Dove Awards for best documentary.

His works have also been shown at film festivals abroad and won prizes in international competitions.

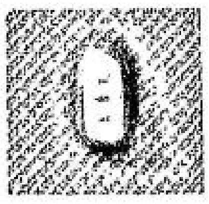
He is survived by his wife Maloy and children Diwa and Gio. His remains lie at the Jesus Lord of Divine Mercy Parish Church in Mapayapa Village 1, Quezon City. Cremation will be on Oct. 17 at La Funeraria Paz on Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

TUDOR
Geneva

The TUDOR Prince Chronograph

Available in stainless steel or in a combination of steel and 18ct yellow gold with a choice of two appealing bezel variations, the Tudor Prince Chronograph epitomizes Tudor's time-honored tradition of reliability and stylish design. It is waterproof-tested to 100 meters and features a screwdown winding crown and the very latest chronograph pushers with matching stainless steel bracelet or handsome leather strap.

For information and service, please contact the
Tudor Service Center
Corinthian Plaza, G/F, 121 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Tel: 811-3320



Safe.

Some simple things that you do can actually be harmful to your health. Like eating a certain food. Lying on the bed. Even hugging a pet animal. That's because substances found in food and dust mites present in house linens can trigger an allergic reaction.

To get rid of the discomfort, get Zyrtec in the 10 mg tablet. Now available over-the-counter.

One dose a day is all you need. And you get quick relief from allergies without any unwanted side effects. Take Zyrtec. It's what the doctor ordered.

If symptoms persist, consult your doctor

Cetirizine
Zyrtec®
For quick and safe relief from allergy.

A quality product of ucb Pharma 9th Flr. Salcedo Towers 169 HV de la Costa St., Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City

BPI Family Savings Bank, together with its partner-Developers, formally opened the BPI Family Village event last September 6 at BPI Family Savings Bank Cainta-Felix, BPI Family Savings Bank Marikina-Ordoñez, BPI Adriatico, BPI Sucat and BPI Sta. Rosa. Senior bank officers, together with valued clients, attended the ribbon-cutting ceremonies.

BPI Family Savings Bank Launches the Newest Way to Make Shopping for a Home Accessible and Affordable with the BPI FAMILY VILLAGE

BPI Family Savings Bank Cainta-Felix
Shown in photo are BPI Family Savings Bank Senior Vice President Greg Anonas, Cainta-Felix Branch Manager Mila Casulla, Cecil Ronquillo, Irene Isais, Cristy Abuacan, special guest Veron Ilagan, Rolly Lexcano, Housing Loan Division Vice President Albert Pascual, Cheeky Maceda and Joel Laforteza.

The **BPI Family Village** is a week-long **one-stop housing shop** that offers the convenience of choosing a new home, plus the means to finance it, simply by going to **participating BPI and BPI Family Savings Bank branches.** Customers enjoy loan packages with specially designed financing schemes from **Happy Family Housing Loan** and its partner-Developers. They can also benefit from unique offers like waived appraisal fees on accredited projects, property discounts and freebies.

BPI Sucat
Ribbon-cutting ceremony led by valued client Lolita Masias and BPI Senior Vice President Nita Claravall assisted by Woodridge Finance Manager Jesus Melliza III and valued client Engr. Ricardo Masias. Looking on are BPI Vice President Cel Bernardo and SM Lap Azores.

BPI Family Savings Bank's housing loan schemes give the customer the **best value-for-money.** Primarily, they offer a **lower down payment** because the loan amount is based on the net selling price of the property and not the appraised value. They also feature **fixed payment options** that provide **really low monthly amortizations.** Moreover, BPI Family Savings Bank promises **as fast as a 5-day credit decision**, upon submission of complete requirements, for loans below ₱5.0M.

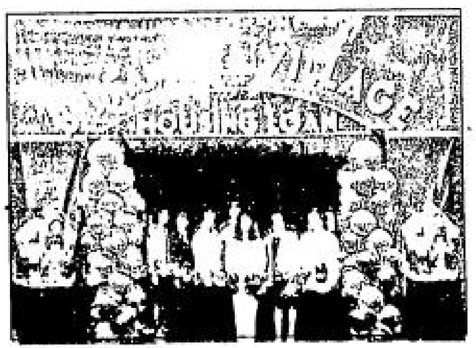
BPI Sta. Rosa
Invocation before the BPI Family Village ribbon-cutting ceremony. Shown in photo are BPI Family Savings Bank President Alfonso Salcedo Jr., valued clients Engr. and Mrs. Ricardo Celino and BPI Sales Director Irene Bueno leading the prayer.

BPI Family Savings Bank partner-Developers also have numerous benefits to offer. Potential home buyers can enjoy discounts or freebies on selected projects if purchased during the BPI Family Village week. In addition, BPI Family Savings Bank will waive the ₱ 3,000 appraisal fee when purchasing a home from the following accredited projects:

METRO MANILA
One Legaspi Park • The Residences at Greenbelt • Ayala Hillside • Serendra • Columns • One Aeropolis • Galleria Regency • Robinsons Place Residences • Bloomfields • Paseo Parkview • Golfhills Terraces • Lafayette • Dakota Residences • Lakeview Manor • Palm Grove

BPI Family Savings Bank Marikina-Ordoñez
Leading the ribbon-cutting ceremony are valued clients Louie Rodriguez and BPI-FSB Housing Loan Department Head Susan Pimentel while guests Estrella Domingo, Diomedes Alejo, Arlyn Dadivas and Pilar Cortez look on. Also in photo are BPI-FSB Mike Sabandal, SM Dino Gopez, AM Rey Custodio and AM Marielle Panzolan.

LAGUNA/CAVITE
• Ayala Westgrove Heights • Ayala Greenfield Estate • Verdana Homes • Krause Park • Teresa Park



BPI Ariatico
Shown in photo are BPI Branch Manager Beth Segui, valued clients Fe Tubongbanua and Thelma Triviño, BPI Service Director Florante Balboa, BPI Senior Vice President Dada Trillo, BPI Sales Director Sylvia Yngente, BPI-FSB AVP Ruel Magtoto.

Aside from all these, all customers who avail of a Happy Family Housing Loan up to December 15, 2004 are qualified to join the **Erase Your Housing Loan Promo** wherein winners can erase up to ₱1,000,000 off their loan.

The BPI Family Village is a unique, limited-time only event.that's set to move from one branch to another. One will definitely open at a branch near you. Just watch out for the BPI Family Village Arc and you are sure to find the home of your dreams and the means to finance it, all under one roof!

HAPPY FAMILY HOUSING LOAN

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK

Visit any BPI or BPI Family Bank branch and Express Banking Center nationwide. Call 845-6888 or 89-100. For provincial inquiries call our Business Centers: Dagupan (075) 522-0372 • San Fernando Pampanga (045) 961-4672 / 963-5524 • Lipa (043) 757-1000 to 02 • Cebu (032) 231-3395 • Bacolod (034) 433-8032 • Iloilo (033) 337-0613 to 14 • Davao (082) 235-3558 to 60 • Cagayan De Oro (08822) 726-067 / 929

GMA says economic plan is RP's last card

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said her economic blueprint for the next six years was the country's "final card" in pulling itself out of its fiscal difficulties and putting itself back on a more stable and higher growth path.

"This is our last chance and we must swim together or sink together," said the President a day after she and her economic managers unveiled the six-year Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) which is targeting a zero-budget deficit and 7 to 8 percent growth by 2010.

The President made the appeal as she called on Filipinos for "sacrifice and supreme acts of service" to implement the MTPDP which presents a menu of painful measures such as more taxes, spending cutbacks, increased power rates, abolition of financially ailing government-owned and -controlled corporations, and trimming of bureaucratic fat.

"It will require supreme efforts at honest enterprise on the part of every institution and citizen," Ms Arroyo said.

The President advised Filipinos not to listen to those who have criticized her strategy, including her admission that the country was in fiscal crisis, as doomed to fail.

"Doomsayers and vested interests will be ever-present to deter our efforts and push back the clock of reform and progress but we must resist, forge on and stay the course," she said.

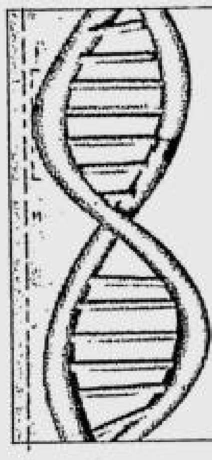
"The blueprint for economic development is now laid out in clear and concrete terms. We are now in an inexorable course towards greater national stability and prosperity," she said.

HONGKONG $108
INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTIC TICKETS and TOUR PACKAGES Available
AIRSHIP ONE TRAVEL

ALABANG / MUNTINLUPA / LAS PINAS CAVITE / LAGUNA
[illegible]

CAINTA / CUBAO / QUEZON CITY / ANTIPOLO MARIKINA
[illegible]

PASIG / MANDALUYONG / SAN JUAN ORTIGAS / GREENHILLS
[illegible]



PROOF BEYOND DOUBT.

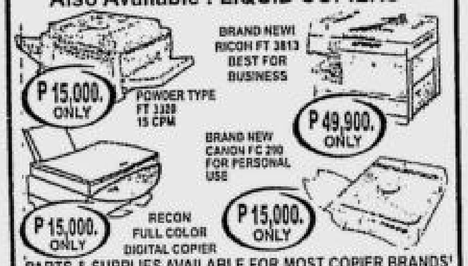
Helix Paternity Verification Services.

DNA testing that is 100% professional and confidential. With minimum accuracy of 99.999% guaranteed!

P17,500 for Mother / Child / Father
Other Tests Available

Unit 18-A First Basement Makati Cinema Square, Chino Roces Ave. Makati City • 811-6468
helixpvs@yahoo.com

COPIERS Sales/ Rentals
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS


P 15,000. ONLY
POWDER TYPE FT 3320 15 CPM
BRAND NEW! RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS
P 49,900. ONLY
BRAND NEW CANON FC 200 FOR PERSONAL USE
P 15,000. ONLY
RECON FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER
P 15,000. ONLY

PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS!

COPYTRADE
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
www.copytrade.com.ph

- RINGBINDERS / LAMINATORS CUTTERS/BLUEPRINT/RISO
- FAX MACHINES, ETC.
- ACCEPT COPIER RENTALS FOR SHORT EVENTS
- BUY/TRADE-IN OLD COPIERS

100% RECONDITIONED COPIER
RICOH • SAVIN • CANON • TOSHIBA

Ricoh 3513 / 3013 Powder Type OPC Model 13CPM Php 17,000
Ricoh 4215 / 3213 15CPM w/ R/E Php 22,500
Toshiba 4550 Powder Type 45CPM Best for Copy Center Php 30,000
Pitney Bowes w/ R/E 28CPM Php 32,000

ALSO AVAILABLE LIQUID TYPE PHP 23,000
- Service warranty
- Free initial supply
- Lowest Cost per copy
- Quick Service Php 250
- Also accept Service Agreement Php 4,000

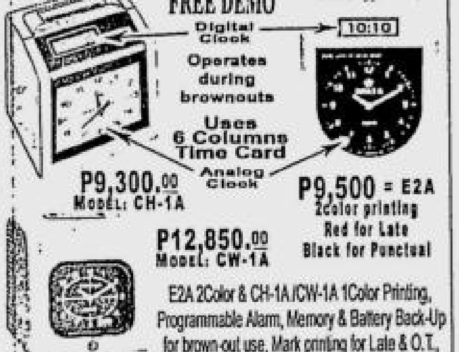
RICOH COPIERS HAUZ
#778 Along Aurora Blvd. Near cor. Seattle St. Cubao. Q. C.
Tel. No.: 722-9570 / 413-0857 / 705-1165 / 723-6034

GO WITH THE NAME YOU KNOW!
Study at
VERNON TAPALLA'S
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE
50% OFF

- SCB The Success & Confidence Building Program
- CP1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
- CP2 On Grammar & Conversational English
- CP3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
- WP1 On Business & Technical Writing
- WP2 On Feature & Creative Writing
- JCP On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't.
- Reading and Comprehension for kids

PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE
MAKATI - 845-0886 / 753-1049 ALABANG - 753-1048

IWATA TIME RECORDERS
DURABLE & RELIABLE, ALMOST 20 YEARS IN THE MARKET NOW
FREE DEMO



P9,300.00 MODEL: CH-1A
P9,500 = E2A 2color printing Red for Late Black for Punctual
P12,850.00 MODEL: CW-1A

E2A 2Color & CH-1A /CW-1A 1Color Printing, Programmable Alarm, Memory & Battery Back-Up for brown-out use, Mark printing for Late & O.T., Dual Time Display, Perpetual Calendar

VERY HEAVY DUTY
SOLE DIST.:
COLENT ENTERPRISE CO.
Tels. 412-4317, 740-3815, 742-8139 to 42, 411-2396 to 98
Fax 411-2399 E-mail: colent@sfi.com.ph

INTRODUCTORY PRICE P395,000

FUNERAL HEARSE
FROM THE U.S.A.

STYLISH & ELEGANT
VERY AFFORDABLE PRICE
LIMITED STOCKS ONLY!

- ✓ V6 GAS
- ✓ AUTO TRANSMISSION
- ✓ WITH ORIGINAL LOCKS & ROLLERS

THE AV GEAR COMPANY
Makati - (02) 750-5499
(02) 823-8247
Cebu - (032) 254-1993

ROVER SYSTEMS Electronic Security Systems
DIGITAL CCTV RECORDERS

DIGITAL QUAD RECORDER
DIGITAL MULTIPLEX RECORDER

features
- Replaces Analog Video Processor & Time lapse VCR
- Record events in a removable IDE Hard Disk
- Instant search by camera No., Date & Time
- Continuous recording from 8 hrs. to maximum of 1600 hrs. using 80 GB hard disk
- Capable of scheduled & event recording
- Built-in Video loss detection
- DQR Supports 1 up to 4 cameras
- DMR Supports 1 up to 16 cameras

OTHER PRODUCTS

Surveillance Cameras
Monitors

- Digital Video Recorders
- Other CCTV Accessories

Showrooms

ROVER SYSTEMS (PASIG)
Stall B-9 MC Home Depot, Inc.
168 Ortigas Ave., cor. Meralco Ave., Pasig City
Tel No: (632) 638-3859
Telefax: (632) 638-3860

ROVER SYSTEMS (MAKATI)
Stall 4-B MC Home Builder's Depot
Edsa cor. Pasong Tamo, Makati City
Tel No.: (632) 840-5623
Telefax: (632) 840-3367

ROVER SYSTEMS (FORT BONIFACIO)
CS#217a -219 MC Home Depot
32nd St., Bonifacio Blvd, Global City, Taguig Metro Manila
Tel No.: (632) 815-4929
Telefax: (632) 815-4906

FaireTech
Faire Technologies Inc.
#49 E. Fernandez St., San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. No.:(632)723-7959 (T.L.) Fax No.:724-5898
Cel No.:0917-8364491 E-mail: info@fairetech.com

ROYAL TOURS
2004 CHINESE EXPORT COMMODITIES
(GUANGZHOU TRADE FAIR)
(4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS PACKAGE TOUR)
PHASE 2 OCTOBER 25-28
$488
4 Star Hotel in Guangzhou VIA Philippine Airlines
Other Services Offered: INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTIC TOUR PACKAGES and PAL Domestic Ticketing Agent
Royal Vacation Holiday Travel & Tours
523 Remedios Street, Malate, Manila
Tels.: 524-9971 • 524-9987 • 521-6727 • 521-3288 Fax: 521-3288

Reader's Digest MONTHLY DRAW WINNERS

(READER'S DIGEST Product worth P 1,800.00)

Notice is hereby given that the final draws have been held in the presence of a Department of Trade and Industry representative on August 4, September 1, and October 6, 2004 at the office of A-Z Direct Marketing, Inc.

JULY 2004 DRAW WINNERS SINGAPORE – 6 HONGKONG – 4 PHILIPPINES – 90

ABUNDO, OSCAR D
ADIARTE, ROSEMARIE G
ADVIENTO, FRANCISCO
ALUNDAY FR, OSCAR
ALVARO, CATALINA
ANDAYA, LUDIVINA
ANDRES, NATIVIDAD
ARUEGO, JOHNNY C
ATO, GODELIA
AVILA, ZENONIA P
BARNES, BERNADETH B
BATIN, PURISIMO
BERNARDO, ANGELINA
BUENAFLOR, ROBERTO
BUENO, FILOMENO
CABANES, BINI
CAJATOR, ERLINDA
CAPISTRANO, JOSE C
CARBONELL, KATE
CARDONA, ORLANDO J
CASTILLO, FRANCIS
CATABAS, JOSEF ALLEN P
CHING, CATALINA
CODICAR, PRECILLANO
COMANIG, FE
CUADRA, EDGARDO
DALUPANG, DANTE
DE CARVALHO, CARLO AUGUSTO
DE GUZMAN, ROGELIO
DEOFERIO, GLORIA M
DOCTOR JR, AURELIO P
DY, CATHERINE
ENAT-HURIG ELIZABETH G
ERANA, AMADA
ESGUERRA, RODOLFO
FERNANDEZ, ANGELES
FRANCISCO, ESTURLIZA
GAJO, NILO
GOMEZ, VITUS GERARD
GONZALES, SHIRLEY ANN
HAMILL, MA KATTRINA
HERRERA JR, ROGER
JIMENEZ, JUANITO
JIMENEZ JR, MANUEL
KHO, VIDAL ALEXANDER U
LANTICAN, LILIA C
LIM, CHARITO
LUNA, JOSE R
MACUTE, LEONORA
MAGLALANG, TERESITA D
MANAHAN, TERESITA
MARIQUINA, LEOVINA
MAS, TERESITA E
MUSICO, ISMAEL
NACPIL, NORMAN A
NAVAL, PAUL DAVID K
ORTOJAN, BELLA
PADIOS, JAIME
PARCON, MELODINA B
PASION, NERISSA L
PEGA JR, SILVERIO B
PINE, LUZ M
PORIO, CAROLINA C
PRESTOZA, CARIDAD
QUEJADA, MD JUAN
REALICA, COSETTE M
REYES, LOURDES L
RIVERA, JOSE MARIE
ROCA, ROLANDO
ROSALES, ARABELLE
SABIDO, JOSEPHINE P
SALCEDO, ADA H
SALCEDO, ANGELI
SANTOS, ANTONIO, B
SEVILLA, MELANIE S
SUNGA, CORAZON
SURALTA JR, HOSPICIO T
TENA, ELSA F
TUMA, RODOLFO T
UY, ANTONIO T
VERCELES PILAR E
VILLAGONZALO ERLINDA SA
VILLANUEVA, CECILIA B
VILLANUEVA, FLORANTE
VINTERES, PETRA
YAN, MANUEL
YUCHENGCO, PAZ B
ZABALA, CORAZON B
ZABALA, ERNIE T

AUGUST 2004 DRAW WINNERS HONGKONG – 1 PHILIPPINES – 99

ABE, ANTONIO
ABENOJAR, TRINIDAD O
ALCOSEBA, RAIA D
ALDECOA, FRANCES R
ALIMPALA, TIMOTEO P
ALMOGIA, VEVILINA U
ALPUERTO, VICTOR V
ANDRES MD, LETICIA P
ANG, ANTONETTE A
ARELLANO, FLORESCITA M
ATENCION, GINA
AZURA, CESAR
BAGIS, FAWZIYA M
BALTAZAR, CLARE
BOSQUIT, GLORIA A
BUCLATIN, GENETTE
BUCOY, NOGACIANA G
BUENAVENTURA, MA STELLA M
CABALLAS, MARLOU G
CADIZ JR, ELISEO
CALUPITAN, ROSAURO
CARO, JOSELITO A
CARPIO, EDITH
CAVARLEZ, ROBERT
CAZENAS, PAZ
CHALMLEY, BEATRIZ I
CHUA, NEALDIA
CHUPUNGCO, MA CECILIA A
CINCO, VERONICA R
CRUZ, YULANDA T
CRUZADA, FRANCISCO
DACLAN ATTY, PORFIRIO B
DE VERA, ELSIE O
DIOCALES, SHELA GRACE
DOLINO, BERNARDITO B
ENCISO, NORBERTO A
FAJARDO, EVELYN
FARALA, DAVID
FERRARIS, EDNA P
FLANCIA, CORAZON D
FLORES, RICARDO
FUGRAO, TEODORO M
GARCIA, BELANNIA
GO, DIANEBYN
GONZALES, EUGENIO JUAN
HERRERA, ANTONIO
HINOLAN, ROBERTO L
IBABAO, MIRIAM P
ILAGAN, LUZVIMINDA C
ILOGON, JOAN HWEK
INOUCIL, SOLEDAD T
JACINTO, GENEROSA
JACULBE JR, IBARRA B
JAMOLIN, PASTORA J
JALVE, NORBERTO B
JUSTAGA, EMAR LAURON
LACSON, LILIBETH
LAUD, GLENN MITCHELL
LINALLER, AMPARITO
LIM, KATTY S
LOMOLJO JR, EULALIO
MARTINEZ, FRANCISCO
MASHARINO, PAULITO
MEDINA, BENJAMIN F
MIRANDA, JOCELYN M
NAVARRA, ARLYN L
NILO, MARILYN
OBILLO, LETICIA C
OPELARIO, HANNAH A
OPORTO, TERESITA ELNA B
PANGANIAN, LEA B
PAPA, OSCAR
PARK, MA CHRISTINA H
PEDRO, HERMINIA
PEREZ, MAGDALENA G
PISON, FE MERCEDES F
QUIOCHO, ADADESA C
RAGASAJO, ALEXANDER T
RAMOS, FEDERICO F
RAYMUNDO, EDGARDO C
REBUSI, CARMEN
RIVERA, LOURDES
SANTOS, ISIDORO D
SELISANA, YVETTE
SHAU, WILLIAM
TAGALOG, AURORA H
TAN, CRISTINA
TAYCO, PRUDENCIO D
TECARRO, EDNA
TEJAM, MA MILDRED R
TENG, RENEE O
TIU, FEDERICO A
UY ZOSA, EMERITA
VASWANI, HLEN S
VIDAL, LUZVIMINDA M
VILLAMOR, LYDIA
YANG, ARTHUR
ZAMORA, ARSENIA

SEPTEMBER 2004 DRAW WINNERS SINGAPORE – 49 PHILIPPINES – 51

ACUNA, MANUEL A
ALLI JR, ROBERTO
ANG, JAYME
ANG, LORGO
ATIENZA, JAMES
BALELA, BLANCAFLOR
BARRIENTOS, LIEZL H
CABAGNOT COL, RUBEN V
CHAN YU, CARLOS
CHUA, MANOLO
CORTES, HERNANDO P
CRUZ, LENIE
CUDAL, MARLYN B
CUNANAN, ROSELYN C
D SOUZA, MARGARETH
DE BORJA JR, AMADO
DE CAVALHO, CARLOS AUGUSTO
DELA CALZADA, ABE
DON BOSCO COLLEGE INC
ENEJOSA, EVELYN
ESPRA, LUISITA
ESTRELLA III, JOSE C
FERRARIS, CIPRIANO
HERRERA JR, ROGER
JACULBE JR, IBARRA B
JIMENEA JR, RAMON S
KATIPUNAN, CORAZON
LEE, EMETERIA
LIZADA, LYNNE
MACACHOR, LORNA D
MADAYAG, NELSON
MENDOZA, JOSE TEODORO M
MOLINA, FIONA
NATIVIDAD, LUVELINDO I
ONG, ELIZABETH
OZARRAGA, EUGENIO B
PUNZALAN, VIRGINIA C
RAVENA, RAFAEL L
REVICENCIO, MENITA J
SANTOS, REMEDIOS C
SAPAING, EUSTACIO
SASIN, JOSEPH
SERRANO JR, JOSE MA
SUGUITAN, VICENTA F
TAN, CHARLES ALDRIN
TAYAO, ARNALFO G
TIRONA, MA CRISTINA D
TIU, NELSON
UY, VICTORIA
VALDEZ, FLORENCIO A
VILLAFUERTE, MARITA

The Reader's Digest official list of winners should all cases be conclusive. All the winners will be notified by registered mail on how to claim the prize. In case of queries, please contact us at A-Z DIRECT MARKETING INC. 723 Sgt Bumatay St. Plainview Mandaluyong City 1550

The University of Manila
546 Mariano V. de los Santos St. Sampaloc, Mla. Ph. 2806
735-5256; 735-5085; Telefax: 735-5089
website: www.univman.edu.ph
e-mail: um@univman.edu.ph

ENROLLMENT GOING ON FOR SECOND SEMESTER
OPENING OF CLASSES: NOVEMBER 3

COURSES AND DEGREES OFFERED:
- Doctor of Education
- Doctor of Public Administration
- Master of Public Administration
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Laws
- M. A. in Education major in Administration & Supervision
- M. A. in Education major in Guidance & Counselling
- M. A. in History
- M. A. in Political Science
- Bachelor of Laws
- B. S. in Accountancy
- B. S. in Industrial Engineering
- B. S. in Civil Engineering
- B. S. in Criminology
- B. S. in Foreign Service
- B. S. in Computer Science
- B. S. in Hotel and Restaurant Management
- B. S. in Education major in English
- B. S. in Education major in Filipino
- B. S. in Education major in Mathematics
- B. S. in Education major in Science
- B. S. in Education major in Guidance & Counselling
- B. S. in Education major in Computer Science
- B. S. in Education major in History
- B. S. in Education major in Library Science
- B. B. A. major in Banking & Finance
- B. B. A. major in Economics
- B. B. A. major in Management
- B. B. A. major in Marketing
- Bachelor of Elementary Education
- Bachelor of Arts major in Political Science
- Bachelor of Arts major in History
- Bachelor of Arts major in Economics
- Bachelor of Arts major in Public Administration
- Bachelor of Arts major in English

SHORT TERM COURSES:
- Building Construction Specialist
- Associate in Computer Science
- Associate in Hotel & Restaurant Management
- Certificate in Bookkeeping
- Certificate in Police Science & Technology
- Certificate in Computer Secretarial
- Certificate in Hotel & Restaurant Management
- Certificate in Tourism

NEW COURSE OFFERING:
Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Languages major in Japanology

REVIEW COURSES:
- Regular / Advance Pre-Bar Review
- CPA Board Review
- Criminology Board Review
- Civil Engineering Refresher Course
- Teacher's Board Review (L. E. T.)

Excellence • Prestige • Quality

i like Myself

We will show you how.
Success. Friends. Confidence. You can have it all!
Powers Programs. Personality Development.
Executive Grooming. Corporate Training. Modeling. Acting.
Earn the worldwide *John Robert Powers diploma.*

CALL NOW. 892 9511

John Robert Powers www.johnrobertpowers.com
Casmer Building, 195 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati
CONVENIENT PARKING NEARBY

GET ON WITH LIFE. START TODAY. FREE CONSULTATION!

DLI GENERICS
SINCE 1986
Quality na gamot, sa presyong mas abot!!!

Suggested Retail Price August 8, 2004 • Makatitipid ng higit sa 80%

Analgesic/Antipyretic (Para sa kirot, lagnat o trangkaso)		DLI	Leading Brand	Savings
Mefenamic Acid susp. 50 mg/5 ml 60 ml	✓	24.00	104.00	80.00/bot
Mefenamic Acid tab. 500 mg	✓	1.70	20.85	19.15/tab
Paracetamol syrup 125 mg/5 ml 60 ml	✓	21.70	63.50	41.80/bot
Paracetamol tab 500 mg	✓	0.60	2.45	1.85/tab
Anti-biotic (Kontra-Bakterya)				
Amoxicillin cap. 250 mg	✓	2.60	8.95	6.35/cap
Amoxicillin cap. 500 mg	✓	3.70	15.75	12.05/cap
Amoxicillin susp. 250 mg/5 ml, 60 ml	✓	45.10	144.00	98.90/bot
Ampicillin cap. 500 mg	✓	6.50	14.15	7.65/bot
Chloramphenicol cap. 500 mg	✓	3.20	37.75	34.55/cap
Chloramphenicol susp. 125 mg/5 ml 60 ml	✓	40.40	394.75	354.35/bot
Co-trimoxazole tab (TM-160mg SMZ-800mg)	✓	2.30	26.00	23.70/tab
Co-trimoxazole cap. (TM-80mg SMZ-400mg)	✓	2.60	14.80	12.20/cap
Co-trimoxazole susp. (TM-40mg SMZ-200mg)	✓	25.40	115.75	90.35/bot
Anti-cough (Para sa Ubo)				
Bromhexine HCL syrup 4 mg/5 ml, 60 ml	✓	26.70	74.75	48.05/bot
Carbocisteine cap. 500 mg	✓	2.40	12.25	9.85/cap
Carbocisteine susp. 100 mg/5 ml, 60 ml	✓	32.70	87.25	54.55/bot
Anti-diarrhea (Para sa pagtatae)				
Loperamide cap. 2mg	✓	1.80	10.25	8.45/cap

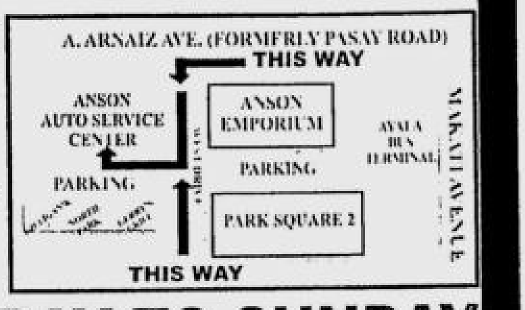
Mabibili sa sumusunod at sa mga botikang abot-kaya ang halaga.
Huwag ipagpapalit sa iba! Hanapin ang tatak DLI. If out of stock, call 711-3933 712-4990 743-1636

Watsons YOUR PERSONAL STORE · EMILENE'S PHARMACY · Carlos SuperDrug · Rose Pharmacy

For factory prices visit: www.DLI-Generics.com for complete product & price information

FOR ALL YOUR AUTO REPAIR AND SERVICE NEEDS...
NAME IT! WE'VE GOT IT!
Anson Auto Service Center
LOWEST PRICE YOU EXPECT IN THE TIME YOU WANT

DRIVE IN FOR A CHECK-UP!
SEE THE DIFFERENCE AND FEEL THE RESULTS.
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
AYALA CENTER, A. ARNAIZ AVENUE (FORMERLY PASAY ROAD), CORNER WEST DRIVE, MAKATI CITY
8922212 • 8922213 • 8922214
8867552 • 8867551



OPEN MONDAY TO SUNDAY

No more free lunch in House hearings

By Carlito Pablo

CONGRESS may have the power over the purse but it is not exempt from the ill-effects of the fiscal crisis.

In the past, food and drink flowed freely during committee hearings at the House.

During Monday's hearing on the 2005 national budget, snacks were distributed only to congressmen and invited guests.

A staff member of the committee on appropriations noted that this was the first time snacks were limited only to the panelists.

"Magdala na lang daw kami ng sariling baon. Austerity *daw* (We were told to bring our own meals. It's called austerity)," the staffer said, making light of the matter.

Cold water

During the budget hearing, congressmen and budget and finance officials were served bread rolls while the appropriations committee staff were only given cold water.

Used to be, committee members, stenographers and support staff of invited resource speakers were served meals along with their bosses.

Not anymore. Free lunches are now a thing of the past.

Rep. Robert Ace Barbers (Lakas, Surigao del Norte) has issued a memorandum outlining austerity measures in his capacity as chair of the House committee on accounts.

"Food service for committee hearings shall consist of snacks only. A "no lunch" policy for committee meetings will strictly be implemented," Barbers said in his memorandum to House leaders.

"Food service shall only be provided to House members and confirmed guests/resource speakers," he stressed. "Should the meeting extend beyond lunch time, the committee concerned should declare a break for one hour from 12 noon to 1 p.m. before resumption."

Barbers added that "food services for out-of-town public hearings shall be limited to snacks."

No travel

In a separate but related memorandum, he directed gasoline allocations for House officials, except for executive directors, be reduced by 50 percent.

He ordered the suspension of all purchases of equipment, furniture and fixtures and told the heads of offices to reduce their maintenance and operating expenditures by "at least 10 percent," and all travel has been suspended, paper recycling is encouraged, while consumption of electricity and other utilities will be strictly for official use only.

TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS PABX
- Call Transfer
- Music-On-Hold
- Call Privacy
- Intercon

AS LOW AS P8,800
INFINITE SYSTEMS Call for FREE DEMO 892-9073 to 77

GREECE (Olympics) TURKEY + EGYPT
Nov. 15, Six Wonders of the World!

GREECE, SPAIN & MOROCCO Nov.16
Athens, Casablanca, Rabat, Marrakesh, Fez Tangier, Gibraltar, Granada, Madrid, Toledo, Corinth, Saronic Cruise
HONGKONG + BANGKOK $ 380
BANGKOK + SINGAPORE $ 425
KUALA + BANGKOK $ 450

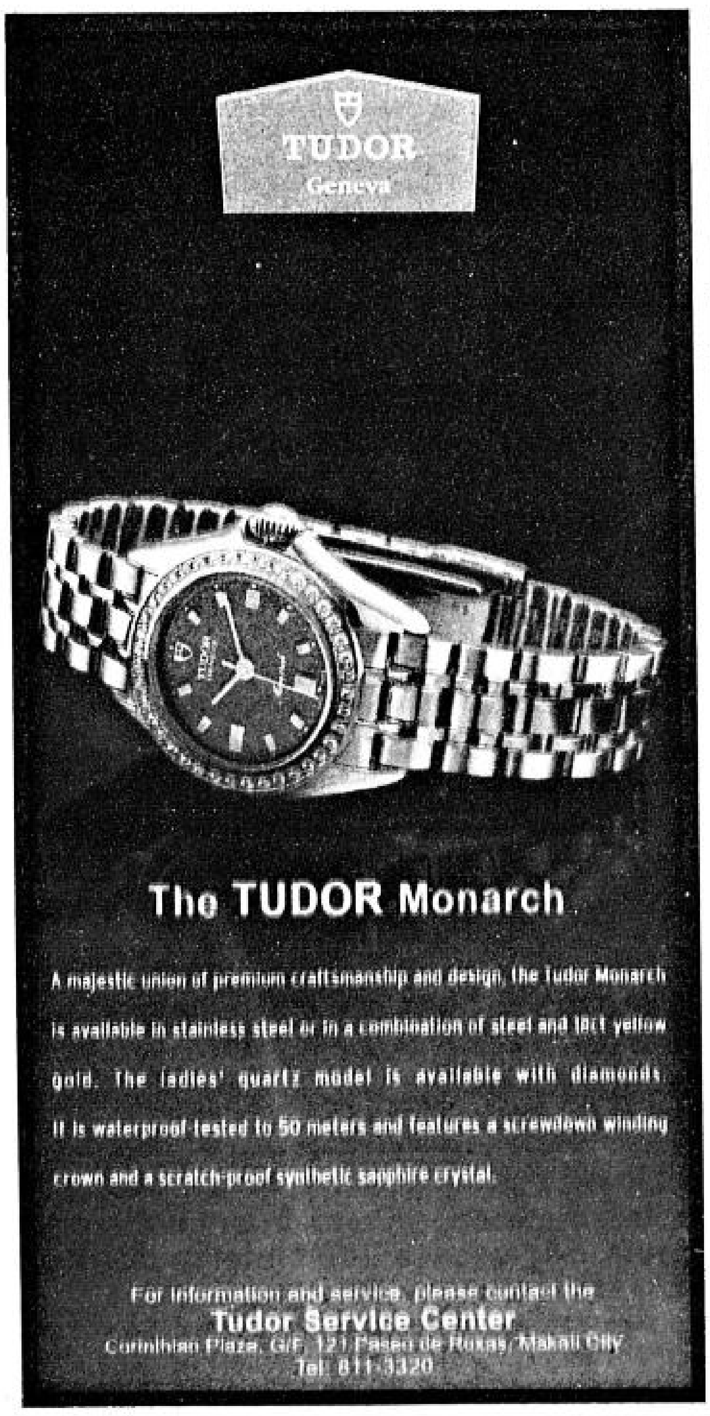
CRUISES
STAR VIRGO CONCERT
(Ogie Alcasid & Bituin Escalante)
Oct. 24 Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia
Fly / Cruise:
CARIBBEAN $ 1,435
AUSTRALIA + NEW ZEALAND $ 2,145

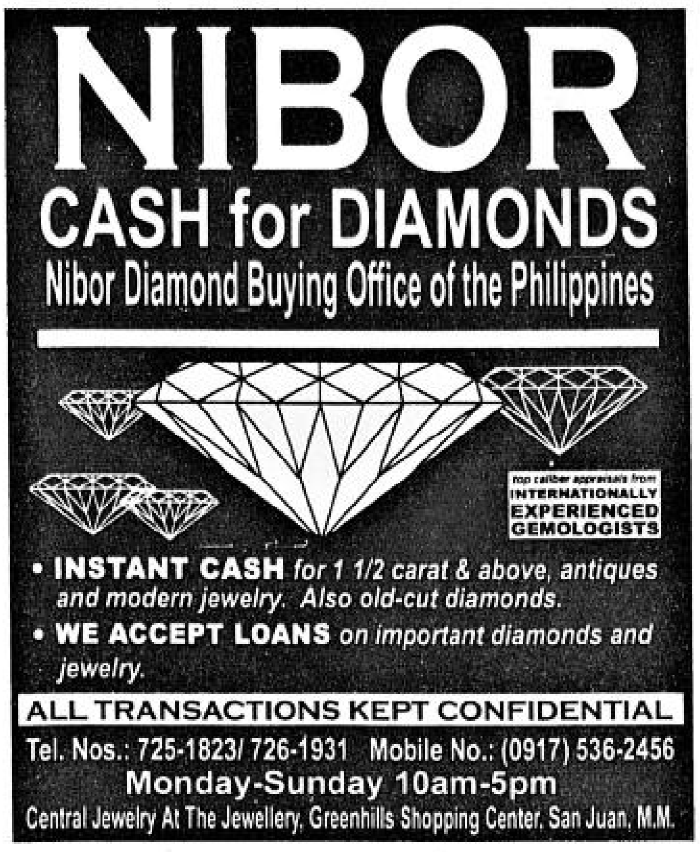
US LAND TOURS
9 Days West Coast $ 655
7 Days East Coast $ 560
Nov. 20, Dec. 18 & 22 dep.
BORACAY, PALAWAN, BOHOL etc
EXPERT VISA ASSISTANCE

Adam's EXPRESS TRAVEL
Serving lifetime memories
Many Tours! PTAA LOWEST PLANE FARES!
1131 Mabini, Manila • Tels.: 521-1651 / 38 / 98 • 336-1737 • 522-3876 - 77 • Fax: 521-2265

A FAMILY INVESTMENT
NEW
CORINTHIAN EXECUTIVE Regency
for as low as P7,958/mo.
IN-HOUSE FINANCING AVAILABLE
A LOT AWAY FROM ROBINSON'S GALLERIA
39-storey office, commercial & residential condominium
2003 Leading Condo Developer (Presidential Awardee)
CITYLAND 812-2222•243-6565•818-8888
241-1894•892-6150•(0919)310-8553
www.cityland.net • investment@cityland.net

The No.1 Videoke Microphone
WOW! MAGIC SING PREMIUM
Videoke Anytime, Anywhere!
mas Feel kumanta!
with the MAGIC SING PREMIUM NECKPHONE FREE
WOW! With every purchase of Magic Sing Premium Videoke Microphone
ASK FOR IT!
Exclusively Distributed by: in-a-jiffy enterprises & G2K Corporation
Made in Korea by: ET ENTERTECH Co. Ltd.
www.magicmic.com
Available Nationwide At:
odyssey music & video · Automatic Centre · AstroVision · ABENSON · WESTERN · Home & Office Center · ASTROPLUS · Avid BRANDS! · And other leading appliance and music stores nationwide


TUDOR Geneva
The TUDOR Monarch
A majestic union of premium craftsmanship and design, the Tudor Monarch is available in stainless steel or in a combination of steel and 18ct yellow gold. The ladies' quartz model is available with diamonds. It is waterproof-tested to 50 meters and features a screwdown winding crown and a scratch-proof synthetic sapphire crystal.
For information and service, please contact the
Tudor Service Center
Corinthian Plaza, G/F, 121 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Tel: 811-3320


NIBOR
CASH for DIAMONDS
Nibor Diamond Buying Office of the Philippines
top caliber appraisals from INTERNATIONALLY EXPERIENCED GEMOLOGISTS
- INSTANT CASH for 1 1/2 carat & above, antiques and modern jewelry. Also old-cut diamonds.
- WE ACCEPT LOANS on important diamonds and jewelry.

ALL TRANSACTIONS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL
Tel. Nos.: 725-1823/ 726-1931 Mobile No.: (0917) 536-2456
Monday-Sunday 10am-5pm
Central Jewelry At The Jewellery, Greenhills Shopping Center, San Juan, M.M.

EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY
4/F, Manila Astral Tower, 1330 Taft Avenue corner Padre Faura, 1000 Manila
521-8236; 523-6465; 524-6813

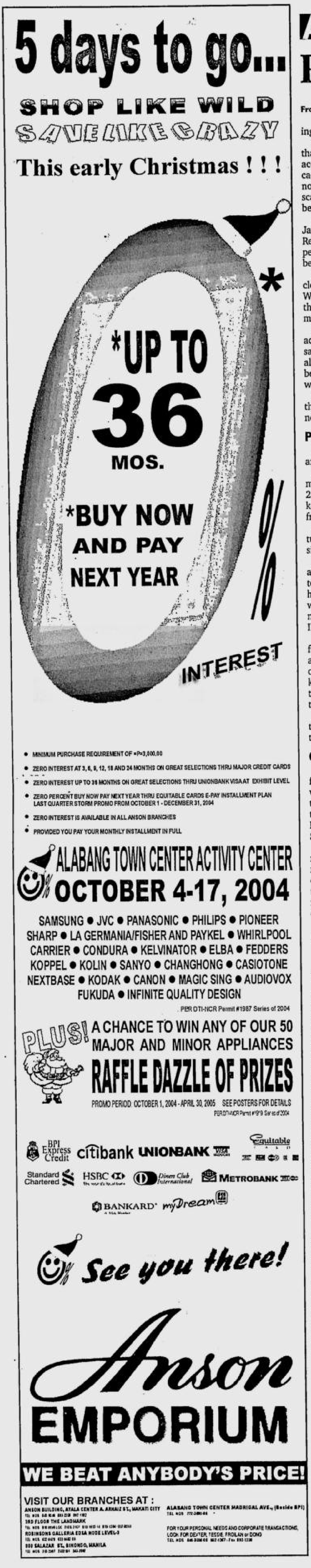
Get Hold of Your Dream
Hit It Big With EDA's Help

When you take a seminar at EDA, your satisfaction is our TOP PRIORITY.
At EDA, we give our partners and friends the following:
1. QUALITY PROGRAMS. Our course content is soundly researched and designed by professional educators for maximum learning.
2. EXPERIENCED TRAINERS. EDA speakers have an average of 15 years experience in actual business operations.
3. VALUE FOR MONEY. We believe that QUALITY need not be expensive.

SCHEDULE OF SEMINARS IN OCTOBER, 2004
FOREIGN LANGUAGES
FOOKIEN
October 18 - November 10, 2004 M-W-Th 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
MANDARIN
October 21 - November 19, 2004 Thursday-Friday 9:00 AM -12:00 NN
SPANISH
October 19 - November 16, 2004 Tuesday-Friday 4:00 PM - 7:30 PM
- ACCOUNTING FOR NON-ACCOUNTANTS
October 23 - November 20, 2004 Saturday 9:00 AM -12:00 NN
- SUPERVISORY DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM
October 18 - 29, 2004 M-W-F 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- LAW FOR NON-LAWYERS
October 23 - November 6, 2004 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- BUSINESS LETTERS AND REPORT WRITING
October 18 - 29, 2004 M-W-F 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT (Integrated Project Planning & Mgt. Seminar)
October 23 - November 6, 2004 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- FORMULATING PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
October 19 and 21, 2004 Tues. & Thurs. 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
- NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION
October 16, 2004 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- TECHNIQUES IN HANDLING DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND DISMISSAL
October 19 and 21, 2004 Tues. & Thurs. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- MOTIVATION: The Key to Winning
October 23, 2004 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- CASHIERING
October 16, 2004 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- EFFECTIVE CUSTOMER RELATIONS & HANDLING CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS
October 16, 2004 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

EDA Seminars are accredited by CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
EDA Courses are also available on Tutorial or In-house basis

SM Appliance Center
citibank
0% INTEREST on 3, 6* or 12*-month installment plan for a minimum purchase of P3,000
installment festival
wider choices
promo period OCT 13 - 24
Per DTI CAVITE Permit No. 302, Series of 2004
* on selected items
SM City BACOOR
PayLite
SM CITY NORTH EDSA 927-6335 • NORTH EDSA ANNEX 927-6578 • NORTH EDSA BASEMENT 927-2050 • SM MAKATI 818-1178 • HARRISON PLAZA 524-8238 • SM CUBAO 911-1159 • SM MEGAMALL 633-5075 • SM CENTERPOINT 715-0634 • SM CITY SOUTHMALL 800-3512 • SM CITY BACOOR (046) 417-0258 • SM CITY FAIRVIEW 417-6795 • SM CITY CEBU (032) 231-9132 • SM CITY ILOILO (033) 320-6355 • SM CITY MANILA 523-8593 • SM DELGADO(033) 337-3102) • SM CITY PAMPANGA (045) 961-0991 • ROCKWELL 898-1519 • PODIUM 687-1215 • SUCAT 829-7346 • SM CITY DAVAO (082) 297-7054 • SM BICUTAN 777-6295 • SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 859-2501 • SM CITY LUCENA (042) 710-5032-34 • SM CITY BAGUIO (074) 619-7692-93 • SM CITY MARILAO (044) 711-2526 • ELIZABETH MALL CEBU (032) 256-3679 • SM DASMARINAS (046) 432-3189


5 days to go...
SHOP LIKE WILD
SAVE LIKE CRAZY
This early Christmas ! ! !
*UP TO 36 MOS.
*BUY NOW AND PAY NEXT YEAR
0% INTEREST
- MINIMUM PURCHASE REQUIREMENT OF =P=3,000.00
- ZERO INTEREST AT 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 AND 24 MONTHS ON GREAT SELECTIONS THRU MAJOR CREDIT CARDS
- ZERO INTEREST UP TO 36 MONTHS ON GREAT SELECTIONS THRU UNIONBANK VISA AT EXHIBIT LEVEL
- ZERO PERCENT BUY NOW PAY NEXT YEAR THRU EQUITABLE CARDS E-PAY INSTALLMENT PLAN LAST QUARTER STORM PROMO FROM OCTOBER 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2004
- ZERO INTEREST IS AVAILABLE IN ALL ANSON BRANCHES
- PROVIDED YOU PAY YOUR MONTHLY INSTALLMENT IN FULL

ALABANG TOWN CENTER ACTIVITY CENTER
OCTOBER 4-17, 2004
SAMSUNG ● JVC ● PANASONIC ● PHILIPS ● PIONEER
SHARP ● LA GERMANIA/FISHER AND PAYKEL ● WHIRLPOOL
CARRIER ● CONDURA ● KELVINATOR ● ELBA ● FEDDERS
KOPPEL ● KOLIN ● SANYO ● CHANGHONG ● CASIOTONE
NEXTBASE ● KODAK ● CANON ● MAGIC SING ● AUDIOVOX
FUKUDA ● INFINITE QUALITY DESIGN
PER DTI-NCR Permit #1987 Series of 2004
PLUS! A CHANCE TO WIN ANY OF OUR 50 MAJOR AND MINOR APPLIANCES
RAFFLE DAZZLE OF PRIZES
PROMO PERIOD: OCTOBER 1, 2004 - APRIL 30, 2005 SEE POSTERS FOR DETAILS
BPI Express Credit citibank UNIONBANK Equitable Standard Chartered HSBC Diners Club International METROBANK BANKARD myDream
See you there!
Anson EMPORIUM
WE BEAT ANYBODY'S PRICE!
VISIT OUR BRANCHES AT :
ANSON BUILDING, ATALA CENTER A. ARNAIZ ST., MAKATI CITY
3RD FLOOR THE LANDMARK
ROBINSONS GALLERIA EDSA NODE LEVEL-3
800 SALAZAR ST., BINONDO, MANILA
ALABANG TOWN CENTER MADRIGAL AVE., (Beside BPI)
FOR YOUR PERSONAL NEEDS AND CORPORATE TRANSACTIONS, LOOK FOR DEXTER, TESSIE, FROILAN or DONO

Pacificador cleared of Javier murder

From page A1

ing an accomplice.

"I'm vindicated but I feel bad that some of my friends and co-accused were convicted," Pacificador, 74, told the INQUIRER. "I did not expect an acquittal, and I was scared when the [decision] was being read."

Reached on his mobile phone, Javier's younger brother, Antique Rep. Exequiel Javier, aired an appeal to relatives and supporters to be calm and to accept the verdict.

But he said there had yet to be closure: "Who's the mastermind? Who ordered the killing? I don't think Javellana was the mastermind. He's just the lawyer."

Congressman Javier said the acquittal came as a surprise. He said he and his family "thought all along that Pacificador would be convicted, especially after he was denied bail."

He also said he did not attend the promulgation because he did not want to "provoke emotions."

Packed courtroom

The promulgation drew around 200 Antique folk.

Castrojas' small courtroom remained packed from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. There was a hush broken only by occasional whispers from the crowd.

Three court employees took turns reading the 113-page decision.

On his request, Pacificador was allowed to sit down 15 minutes into the reading. But it was only four hours later that the other accused were allowed to sit down, after Senior State Prosecutor Leo Dacera III asked Castrojas' permission.

Antiqueños were glued to live feeds from radio stations in Iloilo and Antique. People who spilled out of the courtroom managed to keep tabs of the proceedings through a speaker mounted in the building's lobby.

Castrojas said Javellana and the others found guilty had failed to back their denials and alibis.

Guilty 4 times over

Except for Seguerra, all those found guilty of Javier's murder were also found guilty of the frustrated murder of Dolores Barte and the attempted murder of Divino Bermudes, Blasito Juada, Bernie Salcedo and Mariano Cabrera.

They were each sentenced to a minimum of nine years and a maximum of 17 years for frustrated murder and a minimum of three years and a maximum of nine years for each of the four counts of attempted murder.

WHAT WENT BEFORE

IT WAS Feb. 11, 1986, four days after the "snap" election, when Evelio Javier was gunned down on the driveway of the Antique Provincial Capitol. Arturo Pacificador, then Antique's most influential politician, was suspected as the mastermind.

Canvassing was still ongoing inside the Capitol but the early count showed that as campaign manager for candidate Cory Aquino, the 43-year-old Javier had delivered the votes.

Cory and Salvador Laurel were running against Ferdinand Marcos and Arturo Tolentino, and tension was high not just in Antique but across the country.

A friend of Cory's late husband Ninoy, Javier became governor of Antique when he was only 29. He was on a study grant at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government when Ninoy was assassinated in 1983. He immediately returned home.

In 1984, Javier ran for a seat in the Batasang Pambansa but lost to Pacificador. He filed an electoral protest, which had yet to be resolved when he was killed. (In 1986, the Commission on Elections ruled that Pacificador won the Batasan seat. But the Supreme Court overturned the decision and declared Javier the winner.)

Javier's body was flown to Manila, for memorial services fit for a hero at the Baclaran Church, his alma mater Ateneo de Manila, and, on Cory's request, the Manila Cathedral.

Flown back to Panay Island, Javier's body was borne by mourners in an emotional procession that culminated in a hero's burial in San Jose, Antique's capital.

Many deemed Javier's murder as the catalyst that spurred the Church to take swifter action against Marcos. It was after a requiem Mass for Javier at the Ateneo that people heard the Catholic bishops saying for the first time that the snap election was marked with unprecedented fraud and violence.

At the time of Javier's murder, Pacificador was the majority floor leader of the Batasang Pambansa and deputy minister for public works. He went into hiding and surfaced only in March 1995, when he turned himself in at Camp Crame.

Pacificador's son Rodolfo, also accused of Javier's murder, fled the country after the overthrow of the Marcoses and sought asylum in Canada as a refugee. The Philippine government continues to seek his extradition.

While in detention, Pacificador ran for congressman in 1995, for governor in 2001, and for vice governor in May. He lost in all three elections and has accused his political rivals of robbing him of victory. *PDI Research*

Barte was shot in the eye when the gunmen finished Javier off. Bermudes, Juada and Salcedo were in a huddle with Javier when he was shot; Cabrera was hit when the gunmen strafed the capitol in pursuit of Javier.

Those found guilty were ordered to pay P469,583.32 in damages to the victim's heirs (P375,000 in indemnification and damages for Javier's killing; P50,000 in moral damages for the wounding of Barte, and P44,583.32 in actual damages for the wounding of Bermudes).

'Boy Muslim'

Two other accused, Eduardo Iran, alias Boy Muslim, and Pacificador's son Rodolfo, were not sentenced because they are still at large.

Another accused, Rolando Bernardino, escaped from the Antique Rehabilitation Center in October last year.

Rodolfo Pacificador is seeking political asylum in Canada, where he fled after the killing. The Philippine government has filed a petition before the Canadian courts for his extradition, but the Ontario Court of Appeals dismissed it last year.

Iran was believed to be the leader of the gunmen who shot and pursued Javier from the capitol grounds to the toilet of a house some 250 meters away, where he was finished off.

His whereabouts remain unknown. According to unconfirmed reports, he was killed or seriously wounded in Malaysia two years ago.

Castrojas said the prosecution had failed to prove its accusation that Pacificador gave money to Iran in his residence in Parañaque City on Jan. 5, 1986, supposedly for the gunmen.

'Birthday present'

The prosecution also failed to prove that Pacificador fed and sheltered the gunmen in his houses in the capital town of San Jose and his hometown of Hamtic.

Pacificador said his acquittal was a "present" because yesterday was the birthday of his son Paul, who died a month ago.

He thanked those who continued to support him while he was in jail.

While Pacificador and the others acquitted were rejoicing, one of those convicted, Vicente Vegrafia, was seen in a corner of the courtroom hugging his wife and daughter.

Another who was convicted, John Paloy, said he respected the decision. He said he would confer with his lawyer on his plans.

"As a soldier, I have to be strong," said Paloy, who has spent 18 years and 8 months in jail.

Private prosecutor Aurelio Trampe said he could do nothing now but accept the court's decision.

This was echoed by Dacera, who said the prosecutors would respect the decision even though they believed that Javier's murder could not have happened without Pacificador as the mastermind.

Suspended trial

The trial started in 1987 but was suspended for nearly 10 years after the Supreme Court issued a temporary restraining order in 1989 in response to allegations that the presiding judge was biased for the defense.

The high court lifted the order on July 19, 1999.

Castrojas said the testimony of prosecution witnesses also failed to prove that Pacificador had ordered Javier's killing and provided the vehicles used in the deed.

He said the witnesses did not personally hear Pacificador order the killing.

The witnesses said they had heard Iran saying that Javier's killing had been approved by the "boss."

Rodolfo Pacificador

Castrojas pointed out that as shown by the testimony of prosecution witnesses Arleen Limoso, Jose Delumen and Romeo Nagales, it was Rodolfo Pacificador "who ran affairs, so to speak..."

The elder Pacificador had been held at the Antique Rehabilitation Center since 1995.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, Javier's close friend and colleague in the anti-Marcos movement, said he was happy because some of the accused were convicted.

He expressed the hope that the decision would help bring the other accused still at large to justice.

'Ecleo man fits artist sketch of lawyer's killer'

From page A1

lawyer of the Bacolod family who filed the case against Ecleo over the killing of his wife. Aside from the Ecleo case, Yongco also handled a rape case in which the accused was meted out 26 death sentences. She was also involved in the rescue of a woman who was turned into a sex slave.

Orlando Salatandre, Ecleo's lawyer, reiterated that his client had nothing to do with the killing. He challenged Ecleo's accusers to file charges against his client if they had any evidence against him.

The Philippine Benevolent Missionary Association (PBMA) headed by Ecleo also said its leader had nothing to do with the killing of Yongco.

Elvis de la Merced, secretary general of the Dinagat Island-based PBMA, said the group's supreme master would never order such a brutal murder.

Still at large

The gunman, still at large, was described as being 40 to 45 years old, 5'9" tall, dark-skinned with a heavy build, and weighing approximately 80 kg.

Esmeralda declined to give the name of the gunman while follow-up operations were going on, but said his office was coordinating with the Armed Forces Central Command.

He said no description was yet available of the driver of the motorcycle which the gunman used in his getaway. The driver allegedly had his back turned to the witness when the latter passed by Yongco's house during the shooting.

Yongco was shot several times inside her office adjacent to her house at Barangay Zapatera in Cebu. The gunman walked into the unlocked office and fired off five shots, hitting her in the head, neck, shoulder and arm.

Her body was found by her husband Filemon when he went to check what the bursts of gunfire was about.

Theories about mastermind

Women's groups in Cebu condemned the killing of Yongco, an advocate of children and women's rights and accused Ecleo of being the mastermind.

Purita Sanchez of Lihok Filipina said in a press conference her group believed that Yongco was killed because she actively pursued the case against Ecleo.

One of Yongco's last moves, Sanchez said, was to file a motion seeking to inhibit Regional Trial Court Judge Ireneo Lee Gako from handling the parricide case on grounds that the judge appeared to be biased in favor of Ecleo.

Sanchez spoke at a news conference held in a chapel at Cebu Rolling Hills, where Yongco's wake was being held.

With Sanchez were members of six other women's groups that Yongco was affiliated with. These were the Cebu Women's Network, Abanse! Pinay, Legal Alternatives for Women, Children's Legal Bureau, Environmental Legal Assistance Bureau and Women's Solidarity for Justice.

Tribute to Yongco

The emotional gathering of colleagues, clients, friends and relatives paid tribute to Yongco, calling her a "fighter, companion, a friend, a sister, a good wife and mother."

Esmeralda said his office had asked the National Statistics Office and NBI-Carraga region to furnish him with copies of the birth certificate and voter's registration of the gunman.

The NBI's artist sketch of the gunman, based on the testimonies of two eyewitnesses, showed that the gunman looked "Turkish" and had short hair and a short beard.

It was different from the artist sketch of the Homicide Section of the Cebu City Police Office, which pictured the gunman as long-haired with a long gray beard.

Esmeralda said his office had obtained a copy of a photo nine years ago of members of the PBMA.

"There were plenty of characteristics that matched the cartographic sketch. We are still investigating," Esmeralda said.

Ecleo supporters

Insisting on Ecleo's innocence, De la Merced told the INQUIRER in a phone interview: "Our master was sad over Yongco's death and at the same time dismayed with allegations linking him to the murder."

De la Merced said Ecleo, who is staying on Dinagat Island recuperating from an illness, was willing to cooperate with any investigation into Yongco's killing.

Why blame us?

"He would support investigations even to the extent of providing authorities the lists of all our members," De la Merced added.

De la Merced said the eight million-strong PBMA organization had nothing against Yongco.

"Why always blame the PBMA?" he said. *With a report from Franklin A. Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Orientique Special Sale!
October 1- 15
40% Off on absolutely everything
Coffee tables, Balinese doors, benches, sofa's, beds, dining tables, buffet tables, console tables, cabinets, entertainment cabinets, mirrors, wall side tables, carvings, lamps, accessories. 100% handmade carpets from India and Pakistan double knots to super fine Silk.
Per DTI-NCR Permit#4918 series of 2004
Mandaluyong Branch: Warehouse # 7 Pines St. Cor Sheridan St TEL:7466850-839 FAX:6872894
Alabang Branch: 304 Home Precinct, Commerce cor. Filinvest Aves, West Gate, Filinvest TEL:7711062

NEWSBRIEFS

Asean Jaycees coming to RP

ASEAN Jaycee senators are coming to the Philippines to attend the installation of their new board of officers during the Philippine Jaycee Senate convention to be held in Baguio City on Oct. 22-24.

Incoming Asean Jaycee Senate president Erick A. San Juan said Jaycee senators from Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Indonesia will be part of the new board.

Jaycee senatorship is a lifetime award given to regular Jaycees who excel in leadership training. The Asean Jaycee senators will be led by current president Victor Tay Kok Leong of Singapore.

San Juan is a journalist, author, radio commentator and political risk analyst. He was the first Filipino to receive the Most Outstanding JCI Senator Award in Cartagena, Colombia, in 1985.

Ill man needs help

A MAN who was born with a multi-cystic mass in the back of his head is in need of donations to finance his medications and surgery after the mass has grown to the size of his head.

Marciano Sulit, 32, is confined at the Our Lady of Peace Foundation Hospital in Parañaque City, awaiting an operation on the mass that is suspected to be cancerous. Sister Eva Fidela Maamo, foundation head, is appealing for financial contributions to help cover the cost of treatment. Donations may be sent to the Our Lady of Peace Foundation, Coastal Rd., Barangay San Dionisio, Parañaque City, tel. 825-7653. Checks may be made out to the Our Lady of Peace Foundation.

Claret '79 marks jubilee

BATCH '79 of the Claret School of Quezon City will celebrate its silver jubilee on Oct. 23 at the school grounds. Registration starts at 4 p.m. The reunion will be highlighted by the unveiling of a new announcement board, a gift of the class to their alma mater. Members of the class may contact lawyer Nonoy Solidum, tel. 928-1145 and 922-7634, for more information.

Alpha Phi Beta election

THE ALPHA Phi Beta Chancery will hold an election for its 15-member board of directors during its fellowship meeting on Oct. 22 at the Gabaldon Room or Club Filipino in Greenhills, San Juan.

The 15 directors to be elected will serve for a term of two years beginning Jan. 1. The three directors garnering the highest number of votes will qualify to vie for the positions of the Chancery's Lord Chancellor, Vice Chancellor for Internal Affairs and Vice Chancellor for External Affairs.

The Chancery is composed of the alumni members of the Alpha Phi Beta Fraternity of the University of the Philippines headed by lawyer Rene Valdecantos.

Naia customs man cited

EDROSOLAN

JOSE Q. Edrosolan of the Bureau of Customs at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport was cited during the 44th anniversary celebration of the Naia customs collection district recently. Edrosolan initiated the seizure of a Beechcraft Super King Air which was in violation of the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines. As a result, the plane's corporate owner was made to pay fees, taxes and penalties totaling P50 million.

ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

Logistics Management.

For the first time, as part of an academe-industry partnership between the Technological Institute of the Philippines and Transprocure, this four-year academic program called BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMERCE, MAJOR IN LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT is being offered only at TIP. Taught by industry professionals, the course was designed to meet the increasing demand of the logistics sector for new graduates properly trained in the logistics field.

LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT.
ONE COURSE. DIFFERENT CAREERS.
IN ALL INDUSTRIES. IN ANY COUNTRY.
ONLY AT TIP.

Logistics Management is concerned with getting " the right product, in the right quantity, in the right condition, delivered to the right customer, at the right place, at the right time, at the right cost."

Logistics is crucial to just about every business and industry --- from agriculture to manufacturing to services --- anywhere in the world.

And the career opportunities open to graduates of Logistics Management cover a broad range that includes Purchasing Management, Inventory Management and Control, Transportation Management, Warehousing Management, Customer Care and Service, Production and Operation Management, Import and Export Business Operations, Business Processes Outsourcing, Distribution Management, Materials Handling, Production Planning, Shipping, Procurement and Logistics Education and Training.

A pioneering education. A choice of careers in any industry, in any country. And you can only get it at TIP.

Your dynamic new career starts with your enrollment. Call 9121573 for inquiries.

MANILA CAMPUSES 363 P. Casal St., Quiapo, Manila / 1338 Arlegui St., Quiapo, Manila
QUEZON CITY CAMPUS 938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
In constant redefinition of academic life

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Wednesday, October 13, 2004
28th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:	Gal 5:18-25
Gospel:	Lk 11:42-46

Jesus said, "A curse is on you, Pharisees; for the Temple you give a tenth of all, including mint and rue and the other herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. This ought to be practiced, without neglecting the other. A curse is on you, Pharisees, for you love the best seats in the synagogues and to be greeted in the marketplace. A curse is on you for you are like tombstones of the dead which can hardly be seen; people don't notice them and make themselves unclean by stepping on them."

Then a teacher of the Law spoke up and said, "Master, when you speak like this, you insult us, too." And Jesus answered, "A curse is on you also, teachers of the Law. For you prepare unbearable burdens and load them on the people, while you yourselves don't move a finger to help them."

Commentary

In the absence of love, everything goes wrong. This has always been the message of the world's greatest teachers. But love can be extremely arduous, and—like anger—hard to pitch right. Too often when the word-package is opened there's nothing in it; or there are foul substitutes: lust, self-flattery, the will to power… It must be the study and struggle of a lifetime to learn how to love.

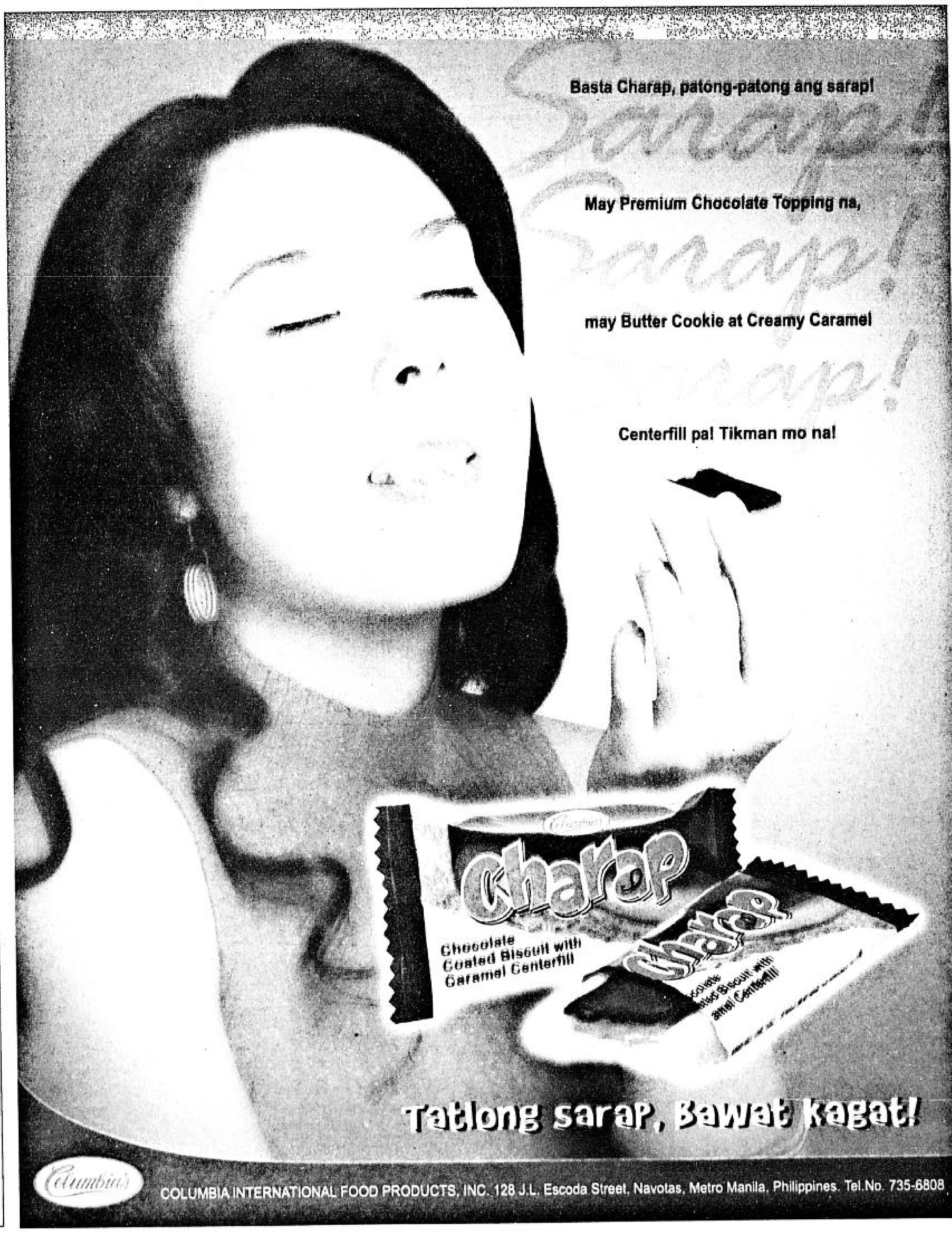
There has never been a shortage of people who legislate for others, but without love. The fame of the Scribes and Pharisees lies in that alone. But they have many successors, perhaps even oneself. Brrrr! Let's stay for a while in the presence of Kahlil Gibran. "What of those to whom life is… a rock, and the law a chisel with which they would carve it in their own likeness? What of the cripple who hates dancers? What of the ox who loves his yoke and deems the elk and deer of the forest stray and vagrant things? What of the old serpent who cannot shed his skin, and calls all others naked and shameless? And of him who comes early to the wedding feast, and when over-fed and tired goes his way saying that all feasts are violation and all feasters law-breakers?"

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CIVIL PROCEDURE)—**Purpose of pre-trial**—Pre-trial is primarily intended to insure that the parties properly raise all issues necessary to dispose of a case. The parties must disclose during pre-trial all issues they intend to raise during the trial, except those involving privileged or impeaching matters. Although a pre-trial order is not meant to catalogue each issue that the parties may take up during the trial, issues not included in the pre-trial order may be considered only if they are impliedly included in the issues raised or inferable from the issues raised by necessary implication. The basis of the rule is simple. Petitioners are bound by the delimitation of the issues during the pre-trial because they themselves agreed to the same. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Carpio, First Division, Villanueva vs Court of Appeals, G. R. No. 143286]

BY R. B. VERA



Sarap! Sarap! Sarap!
Basta Charap, patong-patong ang sarap!
May Premium Chocolate Topping na,
may Butter Cookie at Creamy Caramel
Centerfill pa! Tikman mo na!
Columbia's
Charap
Chocolate Coated Biscuit with Caramel Centerfill
Tatlong sarap, Bawat kagat!
Columbia's
COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL FOOD PRODUCTS, INC. 128 J.L. Escoda Street, Navotas, Metro Manila, Philippines. Tel.No. 735-6808

RP sitting on top of huge gold, copper, oil deposits but…

THE PHILIPPINES is sitting on top of a huge pot of gold, copper and oil—enough to help ease its fiscal problems and boost the economy.

If only it had the money to extract them.

Foreign companies, which have the resources to make the heavy investments needed to mine the minerals, have been deterred by a Supreme Court ruling questioning the legality of foreign equity.

The government has appealed the ruling, with officials hoping the court will have a change of heart and open the way for an estimated $5.8 billion in investment over the next six years for the development and expansion of 22 copper, gold and nickel mining projects.

The Philippines, which has $63 billion in debt and imports nearly all of its crude oil needs, is also struggling to attract investment to explore 46 oil and gas blocks.

Horacio Ramos, head of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, said revenues from mining could be a way out of the government's fiscal crisis—a $3.5-billion annual budget deficit and rising debt burden.

"It would be a mortal sin not to take advantage of our mineral resources," he said.

Gold, copper and nickel projects identified by the government for potential development would generate sales to world markets of $6.7 billion in the next six years, he said.

But the Supreme Court is standing in the way.

In January, it quashed parts of the 1995 Mining Act that had allowed foreign firms to own whole projects, up from 40 percent.

It said the act treated financial and technical assistance agreements as service contracts that grant beneficial ownership to foreign contractors, "leaving the state with nothing but bare title."

At appeal, the government argued no actual ownership of mineral resources would be transferred to a foreign firm under the agreements.

To further placate worries over foreign involvement, the Office of the Solicitor General said 60 percent of net revenues from mining should go to the government.

It warned gross domestic product growth could slow as much as 1.5 percentage points if the court upheld its ruling.

Peter Wallace, head of a private think tank that has conducted several studies on the mining sector, said the government had made a persuasive argument so "there is a good chance" the court would reverse its ruling.

"This will literally lead to billions of dollars of investments and exports," he said. "It's critically important that the Supreme Court make a change."

The court has not set a deadline for its decision.

But even if the government wins at appeal, it could face strong public opposition to increased mining.

The pollution of a river in the central Philippines in 1996, after the country's largest copper mine leaked waste material, put the spotlight on potential hazards.

The Supreme Court's decision in January was the result of a challenge to the mining law in 1997 by tribal groups who argued mining projects would uproot them from ancestral lands.

"Large-scale mining destroys the environment and displaces communities," said Ron Gutierrez, an environmental and human rights lawyer. "Instead of addressing the root cause of its fiscal crisis, which is moral bankruptcy, the government is looking at mining as an easy way out."

Ring of fire

Benjamin Philip Romualdez, president of the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines, said high-risk businesses like mining needed foreign capital to develop a mine, which could cost more than $1 billion.

Mining permits cover only about 420,000 hectares, or just 1.4 percent, of the Philippines, which straddles a mineral-rich volcanic area called the "Ring of Fire."

Government geologists estimate onshore seams of gold, copper, chromite and other minerals cover about 9 million hectares.

The government estimated its potential copper ore resources at 1.44 billion tons as of 2002, gold ore at 794.86 million tons and nickel ore at 533.51 million tons.

Questions over the legality of contracts in mining have kept foreign oil-and-gas investors sidelined, energy officials said.

A consortium led by Australia's BHP Billiton was the only foreign investor to bid in an auction of oil and gas concessions this year.

"Investors were concerned. There was an added risk because of the court ruling," said Eduardo Manalac, president of the Philippine National Oil Co.

The government estimates potential oil and gas reserves at 8 billion barrels of oil equivalent.

It currently pumps less than 300 barrels of crude a day but produces 272 million cubic feet of natural gas a day, mainly from its offshore Malampaya field. *Reuters*

Corrections

IN THE OCT. 9 issue, a Sports story on Page A21—"Asi et al. to be declared Pinoys"—misspelled the surname of the justice secretary. The correct spelling is Raul Gonzalez—not Gonzales.

* * *

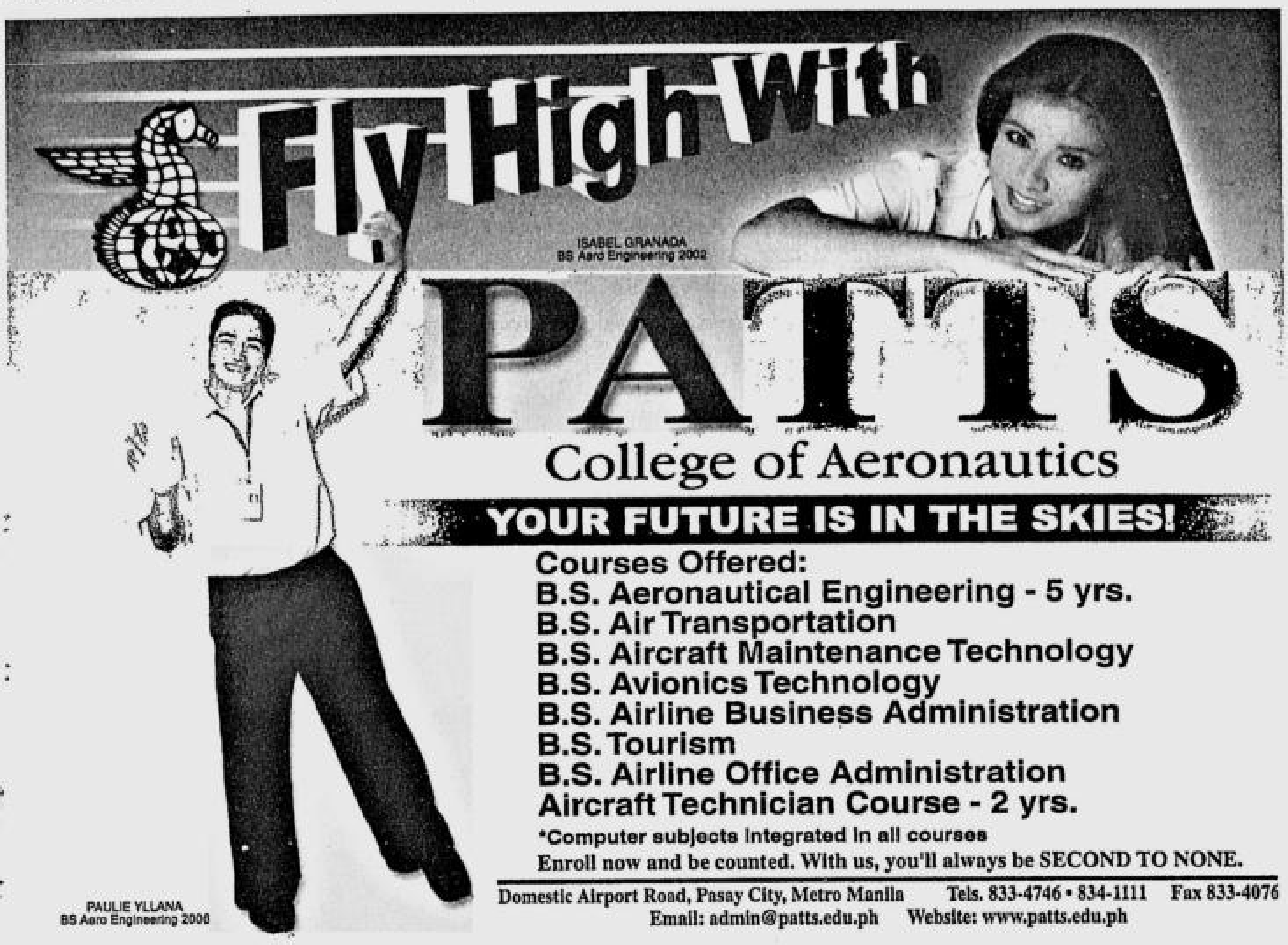
IN YESTERDAY'S issue, the surname of the former Zamboanga del Norte representative, who was convicted of rape and sentenced to life imprisonment, was misspelled in a headline on Page A3. The correct spelling is Romeo Jalosjos—not Jaloslos.

* * *

IN YESTERDAY'S issue, a front-page story—"SuperFerry 14 bombing solved–GMA"—misstated the location of Camp Bagong Diwa. The camp is located in Taguig, Metro Manila—not Rizal. Taguig was carved out of Rizal province in 1975 and became part of the National Capital Region.

* * *

IN YESTERDAY'S issue, a front-page story on the death of Christopher Reeve, the star of the "Superman" movies, misstated that the actor and modeling agency co-founder Gae Exton "had two sons." Reeve and Exton had a son, Matthew, 25, and a daughter, Alexandra, 21.


Fly High With
ISABEL GRANADA
BS Aero Engineering 2002
PATTS
College of Aeronautics
YOUR FUTURE IS IN THE SKIES!
Courses Offered:
B.S. Aeronautical Engineering - 5 yrs.
B.S. Air Transportation
B.S. Aircraft Maintenance Technology
B.S. Avionics Technology
B.S. Airline Business Administration
B.S. Tourism
B.S. Airline Office Administration
Aircraft Technician Course - 2 yrs.
*Computer subjects integrated in all courses
Enroll now and be counted. With us, you'll always be SECOND TO NONE.
Domestic Airport Road, Pasay City, Metro Manila Tels. 833-4746 • 834-1111 Fax 833-4076
Email: admin@patts.edu.ph Website: www.patts.edu.ph
PAULIE YLLANA
BS Aero Engineering 2000

Automotive Rebuilding Industries of Subic
Building 8332 & 8698 Bohol Street, Upper Cubi, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines
E-mail: arisan@yahoo.com Tel: (047) 252-35-18

OPEN LETTER TO THE PHILIPPINE AUTOMOTIVE ASSOCIATION

We are not smugglers, as you incessantly depict us to be. The question of the legality of the used-motor vehicle industry in Subic has been put to rest by the GOCC, the DOJ and that the Office of the President long before our members invested in good faith in this industry, and long after Ritchie Bros pioneered in the auction business in 1994. This legality was affirmed by a congressional resolution after two years of numerous hearings conducted by two congressional committees.

Our importations, on the other hand, are covered by Import Permits issued by the SBMA prior to their loading at the ports of origin. Our vehicles are described in detail in the Bills of Lading. We pay in cash whatever duties and taxes the Bureau of Customs assesses on our vehicles. We fully comply with all the safety requirements of the LTO for registration before the vehicles are allowed to leave the SBMA premises. If these are considered smuggling activities, we don't know what isn't.

Fact is, it is some of your members who aren't exactly virtuous. During the period when the Ad Valorem Tax was computed on the basis of passenger-sitting capacity, why was it that they declare the 7-seater Lite Aces and the Vannetes, and the 5-seater Pajeros and CRVs as 10-seaters, when their brochures clearly indicated they weren't so? Isn't this a ploy to avoid paying the Ad Valorem Tax?

We don't harm your sales. The bulk of our market, which includes returning OCWs, market vendors, small entrepreneurs, local government units of class C & D municipalities, among others is completely different from the profile of your clientele, who are mainly from well-to-do families, businessmen, corporate executives, professionals (such as doctors, lawyers, etc.) and yuppies. Your market could afford to buy brand-new vehicles worth P1 million to P5 million in cash or through financing, while our clients don't have access to either option.

You say that our existence kills an industry. We say our demise kills a Filipino industry. Your member, have been in and out of our country for so many decades. When the going gets a little rough, like the turbulent years after the Ninoy assasination, you bundle up your investments and flee. When times are better, you reappear and strut like nation-builders, demand government protection, aspire for oligopoly, under the guise of developing a "truly Filipino cars".

But wasn't it in the late '60s when Korean engineers came here to learn car assembly from their Filinino counterparts. Well well, what do you know? The learners are now major suppliers of motor vehicles to first-world countries while we, the teachers, are still where we were 35 years ago.

When will you finally tell the Fiipinos that, "Hey, truth to tell, our foreign principals don't want us to develop a 'Filipino car.' But don't worry, we are staying as long as your government assured us that we make money."

JAIME C. VICENTE
Secretary-General
AUTOMOTIVE REBUILDING
INDUSTRIES OF SUBIC
(ARIS)

PETER GEROUE
Vice-President
MOTOR VEHICLES
IMPORTERS ASSN
(MVIA)

LOUIE MOLOA
President
ALLIANCE OF FILIPINO
RECONDITIONERS
(AFFRECON)

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Bush, Kerry gear up for final debate

SANTA FE, New Mexico—The rival campaigns of President George W. Bush and Democrat John Kerry hit the Southwest Monday, where they were to face off in their final televised debate in two days, with polls showing the race still too close to call.

Kerry accused Bush of breaking a pledge to make Opec hike oil production, and vowed to wean US consumers off Middle East oil, while Bush attacked Kerry on Iraq.

"I want America's energy future, I want America's security to be in the hands of Americans and in our own ingenuity, our own innovation not the Saudi royal family or others around the world," Kerry said in this New Mexico city, pointing to record oil prices.

Bush continued to assail Kerry's position on Iraq as he campaigned in Hobbs, a small town on New Mexico's border with Texas, where the president owns a ranch.

"With a straight face, he said he had only one position on Iraq. He must think we're on another planet," Bush said.

Their campaigns swung through the southwestern United States as both men geared for a final debate in the city of Tempe, Arizona that will focus on domestic issues after two rounds of fireworks on Iraq.

National polls split over who was leading the US presidential race, but Kerry showed signs of making headway against Bush in the decisive state-by-state battle.

A Washington Post/ABC News tracking poll three weeks before the Nov. 2 ballot put Bush on top 51 to 46 percent and a survey by the Rasmussen organization gave the Republican a four-point margin at 49.5 to 45.5 percent.

But a tracking poll by the Zogby International group showed Kerry, the four-term senator from Massachusetts, with a three-point edge at 47-44 percent heading into the final stretch of an acrimonious, marathon campaign.

A USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll gave Kerry a 49 to 48 percent lead over Bush among likely voters, while a poll in mid-September had given Bush a 54 to 40 percent edge.

The conflicting results highlighted a race still close to call and which shows every indication of careening to the same cliffhanger finish as four years ago when the outcome hinged on a bitter recount in the state of Florida.

"This is so much like 2000 it's scary," pollster John Zogby wrote in a commentary on his survey Sunday. "There is a lot of campaigning to go. Remember that in 2000 the lead changed several times in October."

Kerry pulled even with Bush on the strength of a commanding performance over the Republican president in their first televised debate on Sept. 30. A second encounter last week was judged a tie and a third is scheduled for Wednesday. *AFP*

Bali marks blasts

BALI—Relatives of the 202 people killed by terrorists bombs on Bali island marked the second anniversary of the blasts Tuesday with a moment of silence and a vow to defeat the Islamic militants behind the attack.

About 200 family members and survivors, most of them Australians, attended the ceremony at a memorial close to the island's ground zero—empty lots in the heart of the tourist district where the terrorists blew up two packed nightclubs on a Saturday night. Eighty-eight victims were Australians. *AP*

R&A
IMMIGRATION SOLUTIONS
BY REEVES & ASSOCIATES
24 Years Of Excellent Service To The Business & Immigrant Communities

ROBERT L. REEVES
Attorney & Board Certified Specialist
Immigration & Nationality Law (USA)

- R&A represents hundreds of Hospitals in California and throughout the U.S. that have immediate RN & PT openings
- Devoted exclusively to the practice of immigration & nationality law
- Successfully immigrated more than 16,000 Filipino families
- Telephone or Tele-video conference with an immigration expert
- Case Information System allowing clients on-line access to their files 24 hours a day
- R&A is the firm that other attorneys send their clients when their cases are too difficult or complicated
- R&A is one of the largest, oldest and most trusted immigration firms in the United States

Call (02) 759-6777

YOU DESERVE TO BE REPRESENTED BY THE VERY BEST
PASADENA • SAN FRANCISCO • BEIJING • MANILA
www.rreeves.com e-mail: rrphil@rreeves.com

THE LATEST!
EXCELLÉNCE
VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
by
THE ORIGINAL!
MAGIC SING
The World's Best-selling Videoke Microphone!

FREE
LEATHERETTE
MIC JACKET

Protects your Original Magic Sing Excellénce!

MORE PICTURE BACKGROUNDS!
Up to 76 international & local sites!

CHOOSE THE ORIGINAL MAGIC SING EXCELLÉNCE!
Manufactured by: ET ENTER TECH CO. LTD. (Korea)

Authorized dealers:
Appliance Center · Ambassador Appliances, Inc. · Anson Emporium · Crossings · Rustan's Department Store
Metro · Gaisano White Gold · Hotel Rembrandt · Sound Dimension · Radio City · Deeco · 5th Ave
Ocampo's · Marketing · Imperial Appliance Plaza · EMCOR · CONPINCO

Exclusively Distributed by: The Astra Group, Inc. For dealership inquiries, please call 722-4056 or 722-6062 www.astramagicsing.com

"Ngayon, ang DREAM Satellite TV,
KLARONG-KLARO NA, MAS KAYANG-KAYA PA!"
-- Mikee Cojuangco - Jaworski

Monthly Subscription
Dream+NEWS
Dream+FAMILY
Dream+MOVIES
Decoder Set @ ₱7,600
(excluding installation fee)
Also available: Decoder Set @ ₱3,990
DREAM 750 x12 months

Sa DREAM Satellite TV, KLARONG-KLARO lahat ng panonoorin n'yo dahil DIGITAL. At ngayon, mas KAYANG-KAYA na ninyo ang 3 bagong subscription packages — Dream+NEWS (₱175), Dream+FAMILY (₱275), at Dream+MOVIES (₱400).

Kasama ang paboritong channels ninyo sa bawat package. Punung-puno ng programang gusto ng buong pamilya. At nariyan pa rin ang ibang subscription packages — Dream 350, Dream 550 at Dream 750.

DREAM SATELLITE TV
CLARO. WHEREVER!

Customer Service Hotline: (02) 918-8000 • Cebu:(032) 343-8946 • Davao:(082) 235-3615 • Laguna: (049) 545-7219 • Pampanga:(045) 893-2363 • Iloilo:(033) 335-1344 • Bacolod:(034) 434-0168

Iraq's nuke-m disappearing-

UNITED NATIONS—The UN nuclear watchdog expressed concern Monday at the disappearance of high-precision equipment from Iraq's nuclear facilities that could be used to make nuclear weapons.

In a letter to the UN Security Council, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency said some industrial material that Iraq sent overseas has been located in other countries but not high-precision items including milling machines and electron beam welders that have both commercial and military uses.

"As the disappearance of such equipment and materials may be of proliferation significance, any state that has information about the location of such items should provide IAEA with that information," said the agency's director general, Mohamed ElBaradei.

IAEA inspectors left Iraq just before the March 2003 US-led war. US President George W. Bush's administration then barred UN weapons inspectors from returning, deploying US teams in an unsuccessful search for Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

Nonetheless, IAEA teams were allowed into Iraq in June 2003 to investigate reports of widespread looting of storage rooms at the main nuclear complex at Tuwaitha, and in August to take inventory of "several tons" of natural uranium in storage near Tuwaitha.

ElBaradei told the council that Iraq is still obligated, under IAEA agreements, "to declare semi-annually changes that have occurred or are foreseen at sites deemed relevant by the agency." But since March 2003 "the agency has received no such noti-

Norwegian, American win Nobel Prize for economics

STOCKHOLM—Finn Kydland of Norway and Edward Prescott of the United States won the Nobel economics prize Monday for research that laid the groundwork for more independent central banks and explained business cycles.

"Their work has not only transformed economic research, but has also profoundly influenced the practice of economic policy in general, and monetary policy in particular," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said in its citation.

"It is a great honor and recognition—in fact the highest honor and recognition in economics," 60-year-old Kydland said from Bergen in Norway, where news of the prize reached him as he was delivering a lecture.

Kydland, who teaches at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of California, Santa Barbara, said fellow professors had joked about him getting the prize, "but I never paid any attention to it and I certainly was not prepared that anything would happen today." He shares the 10 million Swedish crown ($1.36 million) prize with Prescott, 63, who works at Arizona State University and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

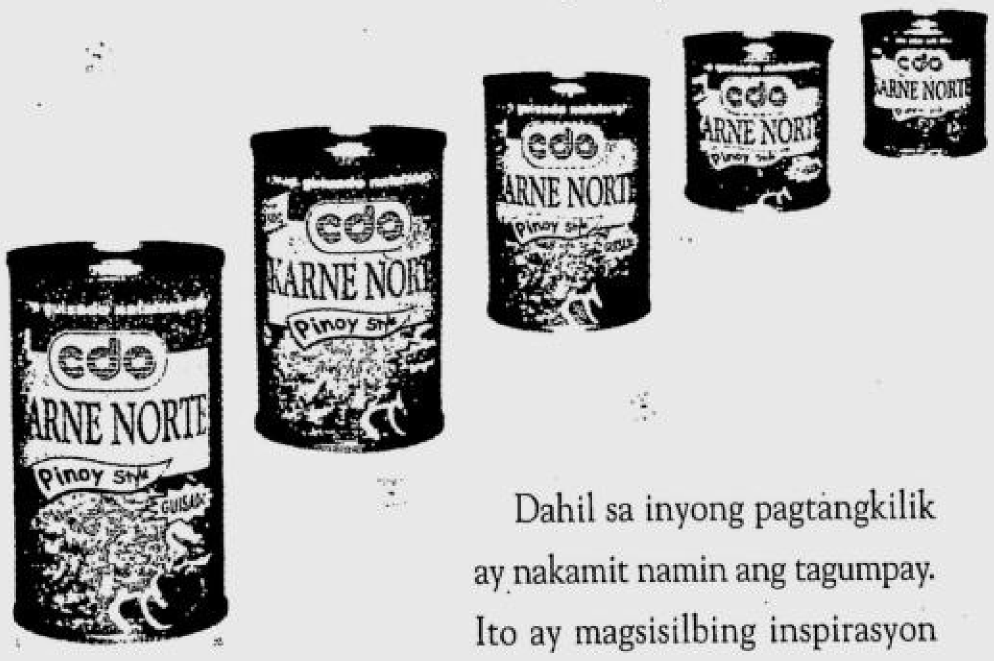
"I am honored and thank all those that have helped me, in particular Finn Kydland," Prescott said in a statement.

"The money is nice, but I am not in this game for the money. I am in it because I love doing it—figuring things out and interacting with students and colleagues," he added.

Prescott said in an interview with Reuters their work had helped to persuade policy-makers to grant central bank independence, yielding real benefits to ordinary people in terms of employment and growth.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s the two men transformed analysis which, with its focus on changes in demand like investment and household consumption, had been unable to explain the widespread phenomenon of "stagflation" —the combination of high inflation with no growth and high unemployment. *Reuters*

Kalidad na langhap ng Bayan!



Dahil sa inyong pagtangkilik ay nakamit namin ang tagumpay. Ito ay magsisilbing inspirasyon namin upang lalo pang pataasin ang antas ng paggawa at kalidad ng aming mga produkto.

Hangad din naming maging modelo sa larangan ng paggawa ng karne norte na katanggap-tanggap, at sarap ng guisadong hanap ng konsyumer.

Salamat po.

cdo
FOODSPHERE, INC.

THE **MOST OUTSTANDING KARNE NORTE MANUFACTURER** OF 2004
BY THE CONSUMERS UNION OF THE PHILIPPINES

cdo FOODSPHERE, INC. *Food that Nourishes Life.*
www.cdo.com.ph

cdo KARNE NORTE Pinoy Style GUISADO
Sarap guisadong nalalanghap!

560 West Service Road, Paso de Blas, Valenzuela City, Philippines Tel. (632) 294-1111

The North Rail Transit : Accelerating Development In

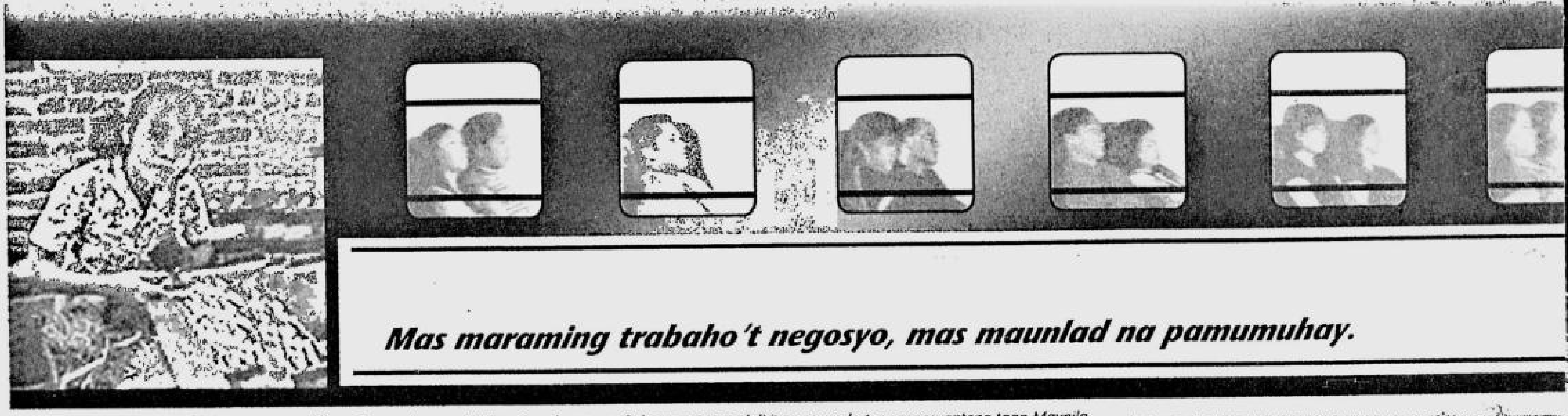
Expect the economy, the people, the government and the environment to benefit greatly from the NRT.

The North Rail Transit is a fast, safe and convenient train system which will span from Caloocan to Malolos on its Phase 1 Section 1 and from Malolos to the Clark Special Economic Zone in Pampanga for its Phase 1 Section 2. Three more phases are envisioned later on, Phase 2 San Fernando, Pampanga to Subic, Phase 3 running to Fort Bonifacio Global City and Phase 4 to San Fernando, La Union. Work on the NRT is expected to start in the first quarter of 2005 and is targeted to be finished by 2008.

The project will make it easy for commuting to and from Bulacan, Pampanga and the surrounding provinces. Travel time from Caloocan to Malolos will clock at only 37 minutes.

The project has been met with the favorable response of government, the business sectors and of the Central Luzon representatives in Congress. The NRT is a flagship project of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's administration. It's expected to not only provide numerous benefits for Metro Manila, Northern and Central Luzon commuters but also offer a big boost to the economic and social health of the nation.

Decongesting Manila. On a national scale, the NRT is expected to encourage the dispersal of Metro Manila's population towards Central and Northern Luzon, decongesting the city. This will curb the rise of population in the metropolis, helping ease difficulties like the clogged traffic and overflowing residential areas. **Economic development not just in Metro Manila.** This will also encourage economic development not only in Metro Manila or the main towns and cities in Bulacan and Pampanga but


Mas maraming trabaho't negosyo, mas maunlad na pamumuhay.

Sa pagdaan ng NRT sa 6 na bayan ng Bulacan, mas madali itong maabot ng negosyanteng taga-Maynila. Ang mga taga-Bulacan namang naghahanap-buhay ay mabilis na ring darating sa Maynila. Dadayuhin ng mga mamumuhunan ang area na ito dahil na rin sa kalapit na Clark International Airport na maabot ng NRT sa Phase 1 Section 2. Sa pagtayo at pagpatakbo pa lang ng NRT, 3,000 na agad ang magkakatrabaho! Sakay na!

aking gear -UN watchdog

fications or declarations from any state," he said.

As a result of the IAEA's ongoing review of satellite photos and follow-up investigations, ElBaradei said, "the IAEA continues to be concerned about the widespread and apparently systematic dismantlement that has taken place at sites previously relevant to Iraq's nuclear program and sites previously subject to ongoing monitoring and verification by the agency."

"The imagery shows in many instances the dismantlement of entire buildings that housed high precision equipment... formerly monitored and tagged with IAEA seals, as well as the removal of equipment and materials (such as high-strength aluminum) from open storage areas," he said.

In a report to the Security Council in early September, the UN Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission which is charged with overseeing the elimination of any banned Iraqi missile, chemical and biological weapons programs, also expressed concern about the disappearance of tagged equipment.

Demetri Perricos, head of the commission, known as UNMOVIC, said Iraqi authorities for over a year have been shipping thousands of tons of scrap metal out of the country, including at least 42 engines from banned missiles and other equipment that could be used to produce banned weapons.

The report said the export was handled by the Iraqi Ministry of Trade, which was under the direct supervision of US occupation authorities until June 28, when the Americans handed power to Iraq's interim government. *AP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Pakistan test-fires missile

ISLAMABAD—Pakistan test-fired an intermediate-range, nuclear capable ballistic missile on Tuesday as part of its efforts to boost defenses against nuclear rival India in spite of recent peace talks. The test came just ahead of the start of two days of talks between Pakistani and Indian border officials in the Indian city of Chandigarh, their second meeting this year since regular contacts were revived to discuss frontier issues. The Pakistani military said Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz witnessed the test of the surface-to-surface Hatf V, a type of Ghauri missile with a range of 1,500 km—capable of hitting most Indian cities and which can carry a payload of 1,985 lbs. It said the test had been successful. Nuclear-armed Pakistan conducts regular missile tests. The last time it test-fired a similar missile was on June 4. *Reuters*

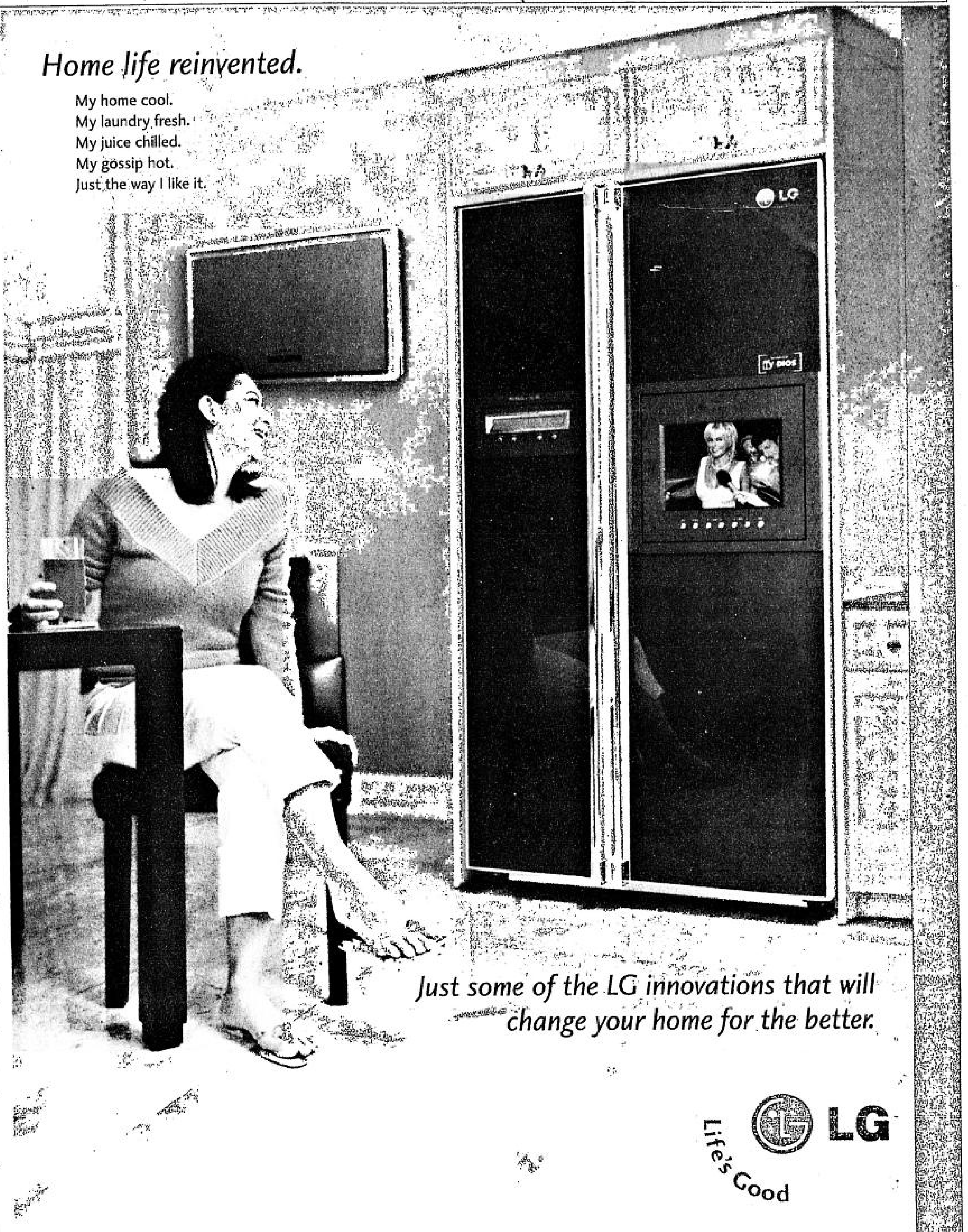
Panel to probe Afghan poll fraud

KABUL—Organizers of Afghanistan's disputed presidential election have given disgruntled candidates until Tuesday evening to formally lodge complaints about voting irregularities. They have also named two of the three members of a panel that will rule on their grievances.' Fifteen of the 18 original candidates announced they were boycotting the process midway through Saturday's vote after complaining of irregularities with the pens used to mark ballot papers and voters' fingers. Some, however, recanted after the United Nations-Afghan Joint Electoral Management Body (JEMB) said it would form an independent panel to look into the matter. The JEMB said in a statement on Tuesday that former Canadian diplomat Craig Jeness and Swedish election administration specialist Staffan Darnolf had been nominated to the panel by the United Nations. *Reuters*

Al-Qaida suspects 'missing'

NEW YORK—At least 11 al-Qaida suspects have "disappeared" in US custody, and some may have been tortured, according to a report by Human Rights Watch. The prisoners are probably being held outside the United States without access to the Red Cross or any oversight of their treatment, the human rights group said. In some cases, the United States will not even acknowledge the prisoners are in custody. The report said the prisoners include the alleged architect of the Sept. 11 attacks, Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, as well as Abu Zubaydah, who is believed to be a close aide to Osama bin Laden. In refusing to disclose the prisoners' whereabouts or acknowledge the detentions, Human Rights Watch said, the US government has violated international law, international treaties and the Geneva Convention. The group called on the government to bring all the prisoners "under the protection of the law." *AP*

From Oct. 1 to Oct. 14, visit LG at AutomaticCENTRE "Christmas in October" Appliance Exhibit at Glorietta 3


Home life reinvented.
My home cool.
My laundry fresh.
My juice chilled.
My gossip hot.
Just the way I like it.

Just some of the LG innovations that will change your home for the better.

LG Life's Good

Visit www.lge.com.ph from October to December and win exciting prizes.

HomeNetwork
TV Refrigerator
Front loader "TROMM"
Art Cool Aircon
Microwave Oven with coffee maker combo

LG Electronics Philippines, Inc. 15 F. Legaspi St., Maybunga, Pasig City. Tel. No.: (02) 641-4181 to 85 · Fax: (02) 640-0460 · Customer Information Center (02) 640-2525, 09178242525 & 09209002525

Central and North Luzon Via Easy, Affordable Access

also in "growth centers" that can develop along the NRT route. The NRT will also be a vital instrument in enabling the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (DMIA) at Clark achieve its objective of being a world-class "international logistics hub and gateway".

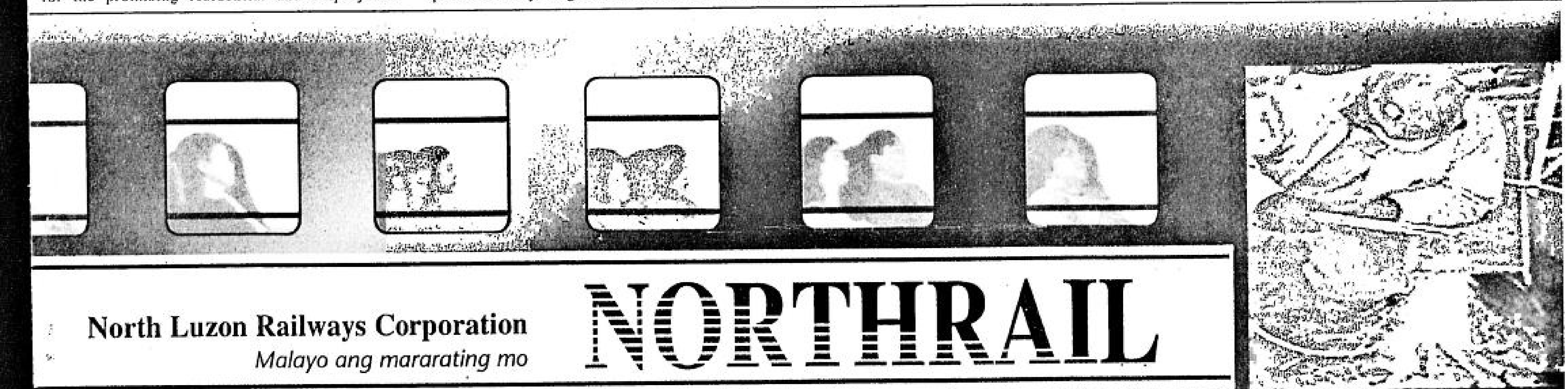
Accelerated progress. Increased progress means that investors will be attracted to develop businesses in the area. Metro Manila residents may be encouraged to move North for the promising residential and employment opportunities. In this way, the NRT becomes an equalizer of progress in Northern and Central Luzon as wealth and opportunity can now equally flourish outside of Metro Manila.

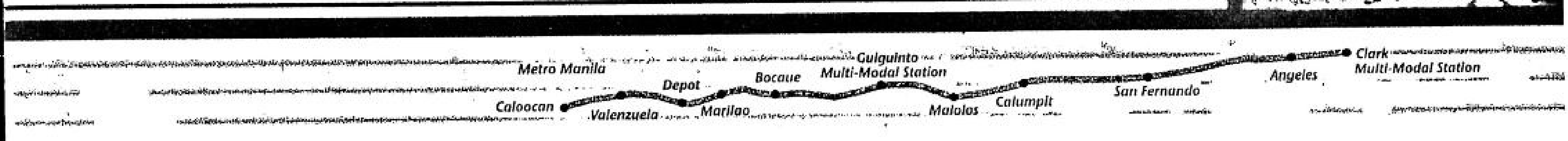
Link the nation. The NRT is expected not only to move people but also to facilitate the transport of goods and services to and from Metro Manila, Northern and Central Luzon. It will begin carrying cargo once Phase 1 Section 2 opens. Ultimately, the goal of the NRT is to interconnect with the other rail transit systems in Metro Manila and the Philippines.

Returns for the government. Moreover, the NRT has been deemed economically viable as, upon operation, it can spawn a substantial amount of return on the government's investment via revenues from the traffic the NRT will generate.

Help for the environment. Additionally, the NRT can be a help to cleaning up the environment. It would reduce the need for gas-burning vehicles thereby aiding in minimizing air pollution.

More job opportunities. On top of the new employment opportunities that will be generated by new businesses opening along the NRT route, the NRT project is accompanied by 2000 jobs generated during the construction phase alone, plus 800 more for the operations and management of the line.


North Luzon Railways Corporation
Malayo ang mararating mo
NORTHRAIL



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2004
ISSN 0116-2642
INQUIRER
Vol. 19 No. 308

OPINION

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net
Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

Publisher **Isagani Yambot**
Editor in Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
Associate Editor for Readership **Rosario A. Garcellano**
News Editor **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **Nilo B. Paurom**
Opinion Editor **Jorge V. Aruta**
National Editor **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
City Editor **Gerry Lirio**
Senior Desk Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**
Editorial Consultant **Amando Doronila**
Chief Photographer **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
Art & Design Director **Lynett A. Villariba**

Board Chairman **Marixi R. Prieto**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Renato R. Reinoso**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **David O. Valdes**
VP for Advertising **Felipe R. Olarte**
AVP for Circulation **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Bad faith

EDITORIAL

IN MANDALUYONG City, public land in the City Hall complex was donated so that the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy, a Catholic church, could be built. This was a clear contravention of the principle of the separation of Church and State, but no one complained.

Malacañang has both a Catholic chapel and a mosque, and no one is complaining.

What the government does, private developers routinely do. Many of the large malls in Metro Manila have Catholic chapels, even parishes, within their premises, and also have Masses celebrated in public areas. While in the case of some developers, having Catholic chapels and prayer rooms may be an offshoot of their own faith, in most cases, it is a response to the wants of their customers. No one has questioned setting aside space for Catholic chapels, in part because the malls are private property, but also because the customers of these malls like it.

The developers of the Greenhills Shopping Center are responding to a need from non-Catholics in exactly the same way. The need has arisen from a growing number of Muslims who work there as merchants and traders and who have a problem of what to do when they break for prayer five times a day. For a time, the Muslims took it upon themselves to pray in a dark and smelly alleyway. It was inevitable that eventually they would grow sick and tired of having music blaring and crowds passing from neighboring shops staring at them while they kneeled and prayed.

Back in July, a magazine first broke the news that a mosque was being planned at the Greenhills Shopping Center. In recent weeks, the proposal to build a place for Muslims to worship in Greenhills has developed into an issue of property and community rights. It has taken on dangerous and reprehensible overtones of religious intolerance and cultural insensitivity.

The people objecting to a Muslim prayer room did not object when a chapel was built in the same shopping center. Now they object to the idea of putting up a special room for Muslims to pray. The basis for their objections is security. They suspect that Muslims, whether Filipino or not, are troublemakers, potential terrorists, untrustworthy people, thieves—and the list goes on and on. They argue that as transients, that is, non-residents of Greenhills, the Muslims do not deserve a special place for prayer, because such a place might become a center for the teaching of radical Islam. Also, such a center might actually entice Muslims to live in Greenhills.

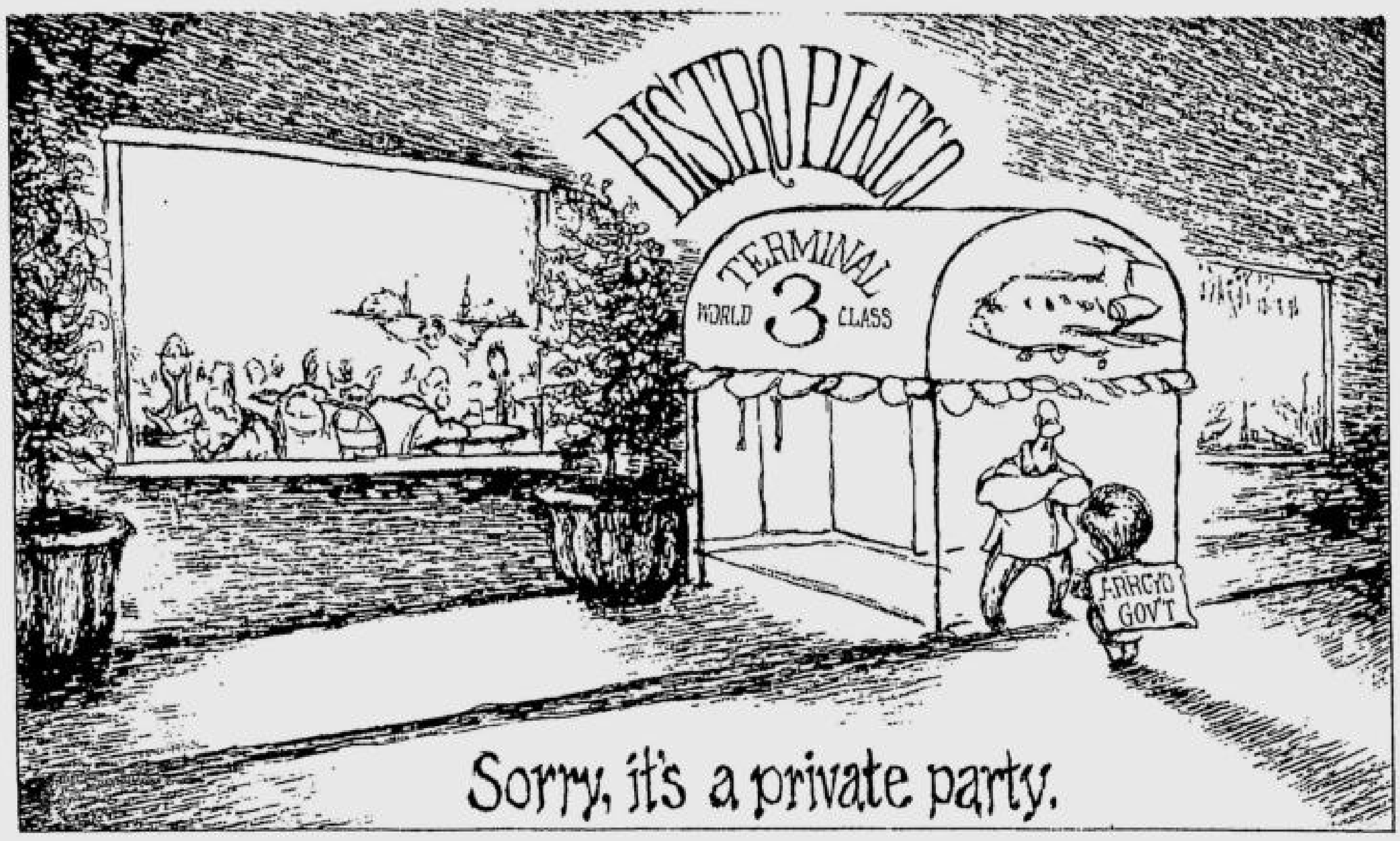
We repeat that such arguments and comments are reprehensible. They not only smack of intolerance and insensitivity, but are dangerous even. A shopping center is by its nature a place for transients, which is why Catholic chapels are built in them and Masses are said there. If transient Catholics deserve a place to worship or to hear Mass, so does any sizeable community of transients.

The question of security is one that must be addressed both by the developer and the state, but in a manner that does not impinge on two basic constitutional rights: the freedom to worship, and the freedom of abode. The fears of those who are opposing a Greenhills prayer center for Muslims are based on the refusal to tolerate the exercise of a particular religion, and stem from the benighted notion that a community has the right of to exclude others on the basis of faith or culture.

While attempts have been made to color opposition to a Muslim prayer center as being the will of the people, there are Greenhills residents who don't approve of it. They call such opposition bigoted and consider it conducive to violence due to the "us versus them" rhetoric and Christian supremacist attitude of those who are leading such opposition.

Although some residents opposing the Muslim prayer room have tried to get him on their side, San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito has, to his credit, made some very sensible—and sensitive—public statements on the issue. "Some Greenhills residents may consider the issue involved to be merely economic and the preservation of their way of life," he said. "However, to the Muslims, this denial of a place of worship is a religious issue."

Ejercito might have added that opposition to a prayer center for Muslims on the basis of protecting "a way of life" calls into question the validity of defending something so outrageously racist, bigoted and prejudiced. All communities, in the end, must adapt or perish.



Why not limit session time of Congress?

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

I HAVE only one objection to lawyer Romulo Makalintal's proposal to abolish Congress and save P67 billion. His proposal is not to have any elections for all congressmen and for half of the 24-man Senate when their terms expire in 2007. The other 12 senators, whose terms won't expire until 2010, will stay on to enact the laws that are necessary and repeal those that are not needed anymore. Then we will have a unicameral legislature. That will save the nation P67 billion which we sorely need to balance the budget and pay our debts, he said.

Makalintal was one of the two guests at last Monday's Kapihan sa Manila; the other was Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes.

I have earlier also proposed the abolition of Congress but my principal objection to Makalintal's version is that among the 12 senators who would be left behind to do the mopping up are Lito Lapid, Bong Revilla and Jinggoy Estrada, plus five neophytes: Jamby Madrigal, Pia Cayetano, Dick Gordon, Alfredo Lim and Mar Roxas. There would be only four veterans left: Aquilino Pimentel Jr., Juan Ponce Enrile, Miriam Defensor-Santiago and Rodolfo Biazon. *Ano na ang mangyayari sa atin?*

My original proposal was to abolish the whole Congress, period, and save even more money. The most peaceful time we had was when President Marcos abolished Congress. It became *magulo* again, and graft ridden, when the Batasang Pambansa was established. (Note that the Batasan was a unicameral legislature, with which Makalintal and certain congressmen want to replace our Congress.) Without a legislature, the government would be a dictatorship, some say. But with the Batasan, the government was still a dictatorship, and the legislature only added to the taxpayers' burden.

Anyway we have too many laws already so that many of them are not being enforced. These laws are so many that law enforcers, judges and justices, lawyers and even the legislators themselves can't remember them all. That is why court cases take years and years to finish, and fiscals and courts often make mistakes, resulting in miscarriages of justice. Even the Supreme Court sometimes contradicts itself because of too many contradictory laws.

And if the members of the legal profession can't remember them all, how can we expect ordinary citizens to remember and obey them all? That is why there are many law violators; they don't realize they are violating laws. Ergo, too many laws make too many criminals. Our lives were much simpler, more peaceful and orderly when we had very few laws promulgated by the village chieftains.

With fewer laws, we would need fewer courts, judges and justices, fiscals, clerks of court, stenographers, interpreters and lawyers and save even more money.

This is not a joke. Many countries have no legislatures for much of the year. They are called to sessions only when the proposed laws to be enacted have been gathered for discussions. As soon as they are passed, the legislature adjourns.

Needless to say, the legislators are paid only when they are in session. Which is only fair, *'di ba*? So, a lot of taxpayers' money is saved, and legislators don't make a career and a family business of politics.

The Philippine system is very wasteful. Congress holds sessions for most of the year, during which the legislators, members of their staff, drivers, advisers and consultants are paid salaries, not to mention the bills for light, water, telephone, gasoline, *merienda*, office supplies and a thousand and one other things. In fact, they are paid even when they don't attend sessions, or they are in recess, or traveling abroad (which is often), with the taxpayers paying for their travel and representational expenses. Include the notorious multibillion-peso pork barrel, a big chunk of which goes into private pockets, and you will see why the government is going bankrupt.

Since Filipino politicians want to copy legislatures of other countries anyway (after copying the American presidential-bicameral system, they now want to copy the parliamentary, unicameral system), why don't we copy that system wherein the legislature holds sessions only when needed and the chief executive calls them? When Congress holds sessions the whole year, it does mostly nothing but investigate, investigate and investigate every little thing that would give its members publicity and end up finding nothing. Or they file innocuous and useless bills such as changing the names of streets and schools.

We don't have to abolish the Senate. If one of the houses of Congress has to be abolished, I think it should be the House of Representatives. With limited session time, we would save enough money even with a bicameral Congress. And movie actors like Bong Revilla can go back to acting when Congress is not in session.

* * *

Former Armed Forces Chief of Staff and former Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes had no inkling of the AFP scandals that exploded recently, he told the Kapihan sa Manila last Monday. For which reason he has not yet formed any opinion as to whether former AFP comptroller Carlos F. Garcia should be tried in a civilian court or face a military court martial. Reyes is now the secretary of interior and local government and fortunately above the AFP scandals—as of the moment.

* * *

TODAY'S JOKE: Sen. Lito Lapid: *Ano ba ang ibig sabihin ng* Bank Secrecy Law?

Sen. Bong Revilla: *Ibig sabihin n'yon ang mga deposito sa bangko ay sekreto.*

Sen. Jinggoy Estrada: "*Di totoo 'yon. Bakit ang* Jose Velarde deposit *sa bangko ng erpat ko, nabisto?*

Senator Lapid: *Bakit hindi mabibisto eh ang dami ng mga* tellers *sa bangko.*

Bush-whacking democracy

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

GEORGE W. Bush kept his histrionics to a minimum the second time around, and so managed to lose to John Kerry only by a slim margin. But the voters are not likely to forget the image he cut during the first debate. That was when he showed his true colors. American commentators would have a field day later analyzing the personality that emerged from it. "Arrogant," "testy," "slowwitted" were some of the words they used.

One suggested that he exhibited all the characteristics of a "dry-drunk," an alcoholic who hasn't had a drop for a spell, showing impatience, rudeness and a persecution complex. Another, John Reynolds, had a theory about the persecution complex, as demonstrated by Bush interjecting, "Let me finish," sixty seconds into his rebuttal when no one was asking him to stop. It was probably Bush listening to a prompter through a hearing device. It's the only explanation that fits the facts, Reynolds says. Other than that Bush is hearing voices in his head, of course.

If I recall right, that was how a James Bond movie introduced the villainous "Goldfinger." He was cheating at poker by having someone tell him what his opponent's cards were via a hearing aid.

But this isn't a column on Bush's personality, or how the second debate went. This is about the fragility of democracy. For the one thing that struck me after reading all those commentaries about Bush's character, "mediocre" being the summation of it, was how someone like him could possibly have waylaid American democracy.

That he should become president isn't startling at all. The American presidency has known mediocrity, and even prospered with it, the system being pretty much on auto-pilot. Gerald Ford, the White House equivalent of Edward Blake's Inspector Clousseau (he supplied abundant proof of being a bumbling fool), easily comes to mind. So does Ronald Reagan, who served for a couple of terms, saw the world in terms of Star Wars and propped up tyrants all over the globe, but presided over a period of affluence and liberalism for America. No, there are precedents for Bush-like clones becoming president of America. What is startling is that Bush should be able to switch off the auto-pilot and bushwhack democracy.

The only precedent for it is Joseph McCarthy. He it was who brought the United States to a point everyone today would be hard put to recognize as democratic. He was the fellow who caused a massive witch-hunt of communists in the United States—the equivalent of Bush's witch-hunt of terrorists in the United States—employing methods thereto known only to communists, the way Bush has used methods hitherto known only to terrorists. The price of being blacklisted, or worse brought before the all-powerful Committee on Un-American Activities, was steep. Many Hollywood directors and actors lost their jobs and their standing that way, some of them committing suicide, others fleeing the United States. Charlie Chaplin was one of the latter and he never set foot on the United States again.

By all accounts, McCarthy was not unlike Bush. In fact, he was uncannily like Bush. Like Bush, he was ambitious but had few credentials to back up his ambition. Like Bush, he was a failed businessman and had a rocky political career, particularly at the start. Like Bush, he was investigated for unethical campaign behavior and falsifying tax returns but managed to have it quietly dropped. Like Bush, he dragged his country to hell by sowing fear, hatred and suspicion among Americans and turning many of them into informers. Like Bush he made patriotism the true refuge of scoundrels. The only thing about him, in fact, that isn't like Bush is that he did not become president, thank God.

But Bush has, and shows to what extent anyone with mediocre abilities but with vaulting ambition—a combustible mix—can do to drive even American liberal democracy, which has withstood various onslaughts for a couple of centuries, down the path of tyranny. Of course, he had no small help from 9/11, a dramatic event that shifted the tectonic plates of history—and American thinking, making it vulnerable to paranoid tweaking. But McCarthy did not have any such help—the threat of a nuclear attack remained only a threat—and was still able to do it.

The strength of a democracy is its people. But that strength can also be a weakness, particularly when the press, which deals with the molding of public opinion, conscripts the people into the cause of tyranny. The American press did so in the 1950s, the American media have been doing so since 9/11. Indeed, there is an earlier precedent for this: Even before the 1950s, in the last years of the 19th century, Randolph Hearst's newspapers—the equivalent of today's Fox News—whipped up America's appetites for imperial venture by pointing to the need to rescue Spain's colonies (Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines) from its brutality. Not quite incidentally, Bush's concept of forcing democracy by gunboat upon those countries that do not have it dates back to this period, when William McKinley unveiled his doctrine of "manifest destiny" or "white man's burden."

Fortunately, democracy, though not impervious to attacks like this, is also not brittle. It does rebound, no small thanks to the people themselves recognizing the madness for what it is. Though whether the rest of the world that has felt the impact of America's slide to tyranny rebounds just as fast is another story, and one best left for another day. For the moment, what's worth contemplating is the vulnerability of even the most robust democracy to authoritarian manipulation. It does highlight the truth of an old adage: The price of freedom is eternal vigilance.

The price of democracy is eternal questioning.

Piatco usurps state's oversight power

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

WHEN Piatco slammed the door on a team of government inspectors who wanted to examine the facilities of the uncompleted Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the act was an emphatic defiance of state authority. More than that, the denial of entry was an infuriating display of arrogance, with Piatco acting like a state within a state, setting its own rules that put it above public authority. The arrogance was even more underlined by the fact that Piatco had an open house for five days two weeks ago for invited guests who watched a light and sound exhibition showing that the terminal was operational.

The administration's reaction was even more outrageous than Piatco's insolence. Although Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye correctly elevated the incident into an issue involving the sovereignty of the republic, his protestation that "we will not allow anybody to subvert" that sovereignty had a hollow ring. There is no sign that the administration will assert the republic's sovereignty firmly by, say, throwing Piatco out of the terminal that is sitting on government property and is under the jurisdiction of the Manila International Airport Authority.

The affront becomes even more insulting when we consider that three members of the inspection team that was barred from the terminal were Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza and MIAA general manager Alfonso Cusi. They were turned back like wet chickens, and Bunye's reaction, which was to ask whether Piatco was hiding something, raised a non-issue. Whether or not Piatco was concealing things begged the question.

The Arroyo administration emerged from the frustrated inspection as one whose authority can easily be disregarded and mocked by private groups with illegal contracts, such as Piatco's contract to build the terminal, which has been voided by the Supreme Court on the grounds that it was clearly disadvantageous to public interest and riddled with corruption.

With that court decision, it is puzzling that the administration has not used it to push settlement of the dispute over the determination of the government's and Piatco's equities in the terminal. The administration is showing itself to be incapable of exercising its authority although it had already succeeded in having the corruption-ridden contract nullified by the courts. What we see is an administration that cannot be trusted to use any mandate to promote the public interest, including the political mandate of having commanding majorities in both houses of Congress. It has tools in its hands, but it is not using them. President Macapagal-Arroyo is no longer talking about a "strong republic" (already an empty phrase) when what we need is a strong presidency with political will.

No wonder Piatco is bashing the government like a punching bag, realizing that it can do this with impunity. The President said she was very "disappointed" by Piatco's action. What a very disappointing and unpresidential statement.

Equally nauseating was the statement of Piatco's counsel that the terminal is "a state-of-the-art, fully functional and modern international airport terminal." State-of-the-art, apparently yes, but functional is a big question. The lawyer said that what Piatco opposed "is an inspection by biased non-experts or government lawyers with no avowed purpose other than fault-finding in aid of government's defense before the World Bank's International Center for Settlement for Investment Disputes and the International Chamber of Commerce." Piatco has lodged arbitration action with both arbitration bodies seeking recovery of its costs and asking for a reimbursement in the amount of some $425 million it claims to have invested in the terminal. The government has claimed there were defects in the construction, based on findings of independent assessors. The findings included alleged use of defective materials that puts at risk the safety of terminal users, including aircraft.

The purpose of the inspection is to help the government make its case with the arbitration tribunals. If Piatco claims the right to make its own case and submit evidence, the government has an equal reason to collect evidence on the premises to support its case and verify independent assessment reports already in its hands. The fact that the dispute is under arbitration does not mean that the government has lost its right and power of oversight over a facility that is of pivotal strategic, economic and security importance and a facility situated on state property, which has not been transferred to Piatco's hands because of the cases.

This is the reason state sovereignty to exercise the power of oversight has paramount importance. The arbitration issues concern modes of settlement and compromise.

When Piatco opened the terminal's doors to invited guests, including airline operators, members of Congress and other stakeholders, it was doing a snow job. Sure, the air-conditioning and the escalators were working, and the new facilities were technically spic-and-span. What the inspectors wanted to find out was whether there were hidden faults, evidence of cost-cutting, cheating or substitution of materials in violation of specifications stated in the contract. Superficial ocular presentations can easily play tricks on the eyes of invited guests who can easily be impressed by gadgetry.

Although the public is impatient over the long delay in the opening of the terminal, Piatco cannot be allowed to take the law into its own hands. Piatco is not the government. In denying government officials access to the terminal, Piatco usurped state power. This is unacceptable.

Arbet's story

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

HER death may have made Arbet Sta. Ana-Yongco a martyr of the legal profession and of the struggle for women's rights. But there is more to Arbet than her violent death.

When an unknown gunman shot her in the face Monday morning, he put an end not just to a career spent defending women and children survivors of violence as well as responding to the legal needs of the poor and disenfranchised; he also put an end to a life that held many lessons and offered so much inspiration. It was also a life almost soap opera-ish in its dramatic highlights, but Arbet, given her sunny nature and refusal to take herself seriously, would have been the first to laugh at any attempt to turn her into a moral lesson.

As told by her friends at the Legal Alternatives for Women Center Inc. (LAW Inc.), of which Arbet was legal director, Arbet's childhood was marked by almost constant struggle for survival, as well as a dogged pursuit of a dream for a better future.

Born in Allen, Northern Samar, Arbet was the eldest of three children. After her father abandoned them, it was left to her mother Beatriz, a teacher, to ensure their survival, making do with her meager salary supplemented by timely loans. Making it clear that there was no money to spare for her high school and college education, Arbet's mother assigned her to look after a "one-pen" piggery from whose proceeds she could save up for her education.

Her friends remember her telling them that every time it rained hard, she would race back to her home from school to evacuate the pigs to higher ground before the pig sty was flooded and the hogs drowned or fell sick. "If they died I would have died, too," she recalled, since it would have meant the end of any prospects for higher education. To feed her pigs, she made ample use of her gift for "PR" or public relations to secure free rice husks from affluent neighbors or cajole some rice mill owners to allow her to thresh some old rice or corn stalks in their mill for pig feed.

* * *

DETERMINED to earn a degree at whatever cost, Arbet supported herself through college by working as a lounge singer in Cebu City.

She rented a small room in the city together with her sister and brother whom she also helped send to school. Scrimping and saving every centavo for their sustenance and schooling, Arbet remembered frequenting Carbon market to buy cheap vegetables "in season," bringing home kilos of Baguio beans, for instance, that would serve as their viand for an entire week, much to the consternation of her siblings.

But thanks to years of cost-cutting and sacrifice, Arbet finally earned a Bachelor of Science in Commerce, major in Accounting, from the University of San Carlos and subsequently passed the CPA board exam. Even after she found work in a bank, though, Arbet continued her singing career part-time, this time to finance her law studies also at USC.

On the way to earning her law degree and passing the bar exams in 1996, Arbet met Filemon Yongco, a lawyer but many years her senior. The "May-December" romance ended in marriage and three children, two boys and a girl.

* * *

GIVEN a childhood spent in poverty and years of struggle for a better life, Arbet would have been justified if, at the end of her schooling, she would have chosen to concentrate on making money and accumulating material rewards.

Instead, Arbet jumped headlong into "alternative" law, although, as Chief Justice Hilario Davide noted recently, "alternative" law should really be considered the mainstream, since its aim is to bring justice to the most disadvantaged, which is what the study and practice of law is all about. Aside from joining LAW Inc., Arbet also served as legal counsel of Lihok Pilipina Foundation, which organized "Bantay Banay," a community-based approach to violence against women. She was also a litigation lawyer for the Children's Legal Bureau, the Crusade against Violence–Visayas, as well as an officer and member of various NGOs, including Abanse! Pinay and the Family Planning Organization of the Philippines. She also served as resource person and consultant on various projects and training workshops, including those on new laws on violence against women and trafficking.

A member of the Praise Cathedral church, Arbet chose to express her Christian faith through service. She organized the women in her barangay for "economic and spiritual empowerment" through Bible-sharing, micro-credit access and livelihood programs. She also worked with children in the community through Sunday Bible classes.

On weekends, together with her husband and children, Arbet would travel to far-flung barangays in Cebu, providing free legal services and consultation, such as affidavits on problems like correction of names and birth dates in birth certificates. Indeed she was, as Arbet stated in her bio-data, a "preacher of the Gospel and the Word of God," a Christian in deed as well as word.

* * *

STILL on Arbet's killing, I encountered Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes yesterday at the "Tapat Palakad, Bayang Maunlad" Governance Expo at Megamall. When I mentioned the killing of Arbet and the need not just to apprehend her killer but also to find out who the mastermind was, Reyes promised to "give it my utmost attention."

"Of course, I'm sure you've heard that many times," Reyes said, smiling. But I assured him that this time "I'm believing you and holding you to your promise."

Let's hope law enforcement authorities get to the bottom of Arbet's heinous killing. The Cebu City government has already offered a reward for any information on the crime. As "herstory" shows, Arbet's life was such that her death calls out to heaven for justice.

Royalty in Manila

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

EYEBROWS rise in mock surprise whenever I mention something I read in Vic Agustin's Cocktales column in the Business section of the INQUIRER. People who hold a stereotype of historians insist that I be completely immersed in archival sources or boring academic journals. However, I maintain that knowing the present is always a good way of understanding the past.

I make no apologies for being a compulsive reader. My reading materials range from erudite etymological entries in the Oxford English Dictionary to the nutritional information on the back of an instant *mami* package.

What caught my eye in a recent Cocktales column was the coming visit of Princess Caroline of Monaco to beneficiaries of her charitable organization in Manila. Normally that's something you would find in Maurice Arcache's adjective-ridden photo-column, but Cocktales focused on the fund-raising dinner and how physical proximity to the princess will reflect the amount of the donation.

Manila is no stranger to royalty; we have been receiving them since the 19th century. The National Archives has bundles of documents on the preparations for the visit of Grand Duke Alexis of Russia and the Duque de Edimburgo. Itineraries for royal visitors usually included a trip to Taal Lake and, of course, a grand ball in Malacañang and a similarly glittering meal with the Arnedos of Sulipan, Pampanga. Street decorations and security arrangements were detailed. One of the odd rules prohibited horse-drawn carriages on Puente Colgante for the duration of the royal visit. Colonial officials didn't want any unwelcome news of carriages falling into the Pasig River so the Colgante or Hanging Bridge was reserved for pedestrians for a while.

Sometimes we had higher-ranking visitors like Norodom I of Cambodia, grandfather of the flamboyant Norodom Sihanouk, who recently abdicated and is now in self-imposed exile in Beijing. Materials on the visit of Norodom I are quite voluminous. They include the decorations he bestowed on everyone who took part in providing him with hospitality. Unfortunately, the side story I have been looking for is not in the archives. It seems that the king was smitten with a young lady from Bulacan whom he gifted with a jeweled pendant, which is now one of the trinkets worn by the image of Our Lady of the Rosary or "La Naval" in Sto. Domingo Church. If newspapers of the time had the ancestor of Cocktales, it would have made my research easier.

Royalty always makes society news and has generated specialty publications like Hola! and Hello! which chronicle the lives of kings and queens all the way down to lowly barons. Aside from keeping patrons occupied under hair dryers or keeping them still as they get a manicure/pedicure or have their eyebrows threaded, royalty is a childhood dream. Boys talk about battles and slaying dragons, but girls talk about marrying a prince and living happily ever after. Unfortunately, for those in their 20s, eligible princes are either toddlers or too old.

Frankly, royalty can be very ordinary if they are not in costume. I remember the grown-ups preparing to meet a certain Prince Alfonso Hohenlohe in Puerto Azul when I was still a child. I stood in the background admiring a stately man in a bush jacket named Stilianapolous who turned out to be the Philippine ambassador to the United Kingdom. The balding potbellied man in faded jeans, T-shirt and espadrilles I ignored was actually the prince.

Once I stood beside Diana, Princess of Wales, in the South Kensington McDonald's as she bought burgers for her sons and ran off before people recognized her.

The Philippine Embassy in London is so well-placed that while eating *adobo* and *kare-kare* in the dining room, you can look out into the driveway of Kensington Palace and see the royals go in and out. But sighting Elizabeth II was more difficult, although I recognized her funny hat inside a speeding limousine one day as I waited for a bus on Trafalgar Square.

In 1997 when Charles, Prince of Wales, visited Manila, I was only interested in watching him receive a tarsier from Bohol. Matthew Gould from the British Embassy was in charge of this event and his major worry was that the tarsier might bite or pee on the prince.

Many people do not know that Edward, better known in later life as the Duke of Windsor, visited Manila on May 13-15, 1922, when he was still Prince of Wales. He carried a physical memento of this visit, a scar over his right eyebrow. This was not the result of an assassination attempt or a bar brawl. Edward was wounded while he was playing polo at the Manila Polo Club, which was then in Pasay. He didn't fall off the horse after being hit by the ball, but he was reported to have collapsed in the stables. Governor-General Leonard Wood, a doctor, prescribed an anti-tetanus shot on top of the three stitches required to close the wound. Despite this, the prince insisted on returning to the field but was persuaded by the doctors to rest.

Our footnotes on British history happen to be the British occupation of Manila in 1762 to 1765 and a scar on the face of the Prince of Wales who later gave up the throne for Wallis Simpson.

Would the once and future king have had such a romantic history if he didn't play polo in Manila that day? We will never know.

* * *

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu

Food politics

THE ONGOING controversies around hunger in the Philippines and the government's proposed food coupons should remind us how political food can be.

There's a sense of déjà vu to all this, evoking ominous memories of hunger during the Marcos dictatorship and how the regime reacted. I say ominous because hunger is something you usually associate with dictatorships and failed states.

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

We tend to associate hunger with pictures of starving infants with bloated bellies. You do get such children in hospital wards but by and large, hunger in the Philippines isn't quite as blatantly visible. Which actually makes it more dangerous because we don't see the thousands of children who are actually slowly being wasted away by hunger, or by adults whose poor diets are eventually going to make them pay a terrible toll with all kinds of chronic illnesses.

Invisible hunger

About two weeks ago, I wrote about a GMA-7 "Imbestigador" documentary that featured faces of Philippine poverty, with one segment focusing specifically on hunger. There were the usual scenes of households whose meals consisted of instant noodles. Others supplemented the instant noodles with a small pack of junk food. There was footage of market vendors giving away left-overs at the end of the day. Again, our comfortable upper classes rarely see this aspect of hunger in the Philippines.

The "Imbestigador" documentary missed out on other faces of hidden hunger, such as the ways poor Filipino mothers have to scrimp on the nutrition of their infants, and the malnutrition that results from these practices. For example, I have seen babies being bottle-fed with diluted condensed milk, which gives them a typical "moon-face," an illusion that the baby is well-fed when it's actually under-nourished from an all-sugar diet.

It took the cold statistics of a recent Social Weather Stations survey to remind us that about one of every seven Filipino households had nothing to eat at least once in the three months before the survey. In Mindanao, this went up to as high as 23 percent of households, and I can imagine that in more remote areas of the island, the incidence may be even higher.

Nutribuns

The response of the Arroyo administration was swift, with orders to issue food coupons. The response only showed that the President and her advisers do recognize what a volatile situation we have in our hands. People going to bed hungry is the stuff that makes for more people power uprisings.

But the food coupons, which could cost taxpayers up to P6 billion, are ill-advised. They again betray the administration's penchant for political dole-outs. The food coupons will do little to reduce hunger, and may in fact cause more harm in the long run.

This use of food as a political tool isn't new. Imelda Marcos did this as well, through her many nutrition projects. In retrospect, the projects weren't too bad. There were attempts to educate the public about low-cost but nutritious food. For example, powdered *dilis* (a kind of fish) was rightly promoted as being a source of iron and protein. There were contests for schoolchildren, nutrition quizzes, oratorical contests, to get the young to extol the virtues of nutritious foods. (Remember, "*Ako si ampalaya,* bow"?)

Alas, some of the projects didn't quite consider existing cultural concepts about food. The status-conscious Filipino thought, and still thinks, food has to be expensive to be nutritious. *Dilis* was too lowly. Worse, there were government nutritionists who tried to promote alternative foods that could be found growing wild in backyards, for example, *gulasimang bato*. Alas, people complained, that was food you gave to pigs, not to people.

Imelda Marcos' nutrition projects also involved dole-outs, the most well known being nutribuns, which were specially fortified bread. She personally gave out some of these nutribuns in her sorties, thinking this would gain her political mileage. Again, the public response wasn't always what she and her advisers expected. Word spread that these were old, stale bread, and they were quickly rechristened "Nutri-amag" (nutritious mold).

The Marcos dictatorship tried to use food as a political tool, and didn't realize that people would respond by criticizing the food programs. People weren't just cynical about the nutribuns and the messages about *ampalaya* and *dilis.* They were putting down the conjugal dictatorship.

In the last years of the Marcoses, the mosquito protest press began to expose the faces of hunger that the dictatorship had tried to suppress. Magazine covers showed infants and children who looked like they were from famine-stricken areas in Africa but, as it turned out, were from our own backyards. The fancy nutrition programs couldn't tackle the root causes of hunger: the plundering of government coffers and mismanagement of governance in general.

Ending the dole-outs

The Arroyo administration needs to learn from the Marcos era. On all counts, dole-outs never work for the poor. They are stopgap measures and yet, like all freebies, create a dangerous demand. The poor will appreciate the food coupons to some extent, but not in any significant way. Now if the government runs out of money to support the food-coupon scheme, you can expect an uproar.

Doling out food coupons does not necessarily mean less hunger. Given the dismally low levels of nutrition awareness in the country, food coupons may only mean more instant noodles and junk food. I've seen it time and again when I give food allowances to household helpers and let them choose what they want to buy from the markets. They come home with cheap cuts of pork, chicken, lots of instant noodles, snack foods, soft drinks and, of course, packs of monosodium glutamate and bullion flavor cubes. Rarely will they get vegetables, fruits or fish.

Our P6 billion would be put to better use if it were allocated for community financing schemes. Many years ago when I worked with Dr. Mita Pardo de Tavera (a former social welfare secretary) and her NGO in an urban poor community, we had a micro-financing community revolving fund that gave out loans for mothers to put up small stores and food stalls. To be able to get a loan, the women had to agree not to sell cigarettes, alcohol or junk food. They were also taught to prepare simple but nutritious meals, and as they served these meals, they were able to talk about good nutrition.

I remembered that community project while watching the "Imbestigador" documentary on poverty (they featured a woman food vendor providing meals at P10 each to security guards and other low-income employees). Support for such initiatives may not be as politically dramatic, but they will go a longer way in helping people help themselves in the war against hunger.

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Youth in fight against tax cheats

WE should be very angry with tax evaders and grafters in tax agencies. Why? Because our future and our children's future are at stake.

In a 2001 Internet article, "Argentina: Current & Future Challenges," Prof. Kathryn. Dominguez noted:

"On deficit: Argentina has been running a fiscal deficit for quite a long time. President Fernando de la Rua's plan for recovery after his election in 1999 included tax increases that failed to alleviate the deficit because of collection problems. Because demand had been stagnant, tax revenues were flat for 2000. This combined with larger than expected fiscal expenditures, led to a $940 million deficit in January, which was already three times more than what was agreed to with the IMF as part of their bailout plan from the ongoing recession. A main cause of the deficit is tax evasion and high number of tax loops.

"On Corruption: Government corruption prevents many public funds from reaching those in need. A slow and politicized judiciary system has done very little to crack down on routine tax evasion and misuse of public funds."

With these excerpts as guide, let us look at the Philippines. The country has been running a fiscal deficit for quite a long time—from President Marcos to the present. Tax increases, like the VAT introduction in 1988, failed to alleviate the deficit because of collection problems. A main cause of the deficit is tax evasion, as exemplified by the P2 billion fictitious tax credit cases, which were dismissed by the court because of failure to prosecute by the government tax agencies. Another reason for the deficit is the high number of tax loops.

Based on the Dominguez article, there is almost a complete similarity between Argentina and the Philippines. This is aggravated by the lack of public outcry against the tax evaders and their coddlers in tax agencies. People fail to relate that for every P400,000 given as *lagay* (grease money), about 100 schoolchildren are denied a decent schoolhouse. The public does not know that the VAT rate will be raised to 12 percent from 10 percent because of collection problems.

What can the youth do?

As in Argentina, the youth can lobby the World Bank to set up anti-corruption projects in the Philippines. And if there is already this project, the latter should be expanded to include taxation issues.

There should be a regular public outcry against corruption and tax evasion akin to the outcry whenever there is an oil price increase.

—ILENE V. ACUÑA,
New Era University,
Home 24 B East Maya St.,
Phil Am Homes, Quezon City

Drug testing license not for sale

THIS refers to the column item of Ramon Tulfo, "On Target," (PDI, 9/25/04) wherein he referred to a guy named Lutero at the Department of Health, reportedly issuing permits and accreditations indiscriminately to drug testing centers for drivers. "Lutero's 'blessing' doesn't come cheap: from P100,000 to P200,000, sources said," Tulfo averred.

Having been directly alluded to in that column item, I categorically deny that drug testing laboratory accreditations are being issued for illicit financial considerations. If Tulfo's "sources" have proof of such activities, I am willing to face them in the proper forum so that the truth will come out. These parties should not be permitted to hide behind the cloak of anonymity while continuing to destroy a person's name and honor.

The DOH has endeavored to make the accreditation of drug testing laboratories as transparent and as fair as possible. Given the agency's very limited resources, we have been doing our very best to monitor these laboratories; and, in fact, several of them had been already penalized for violating the accreditation standards. Perhaps, in the course of strictly implementing the policies and regulations of the Dangerous Drugs Board and the DOH, we have adversely affected the business concerns of these "sources."

It is my hope that this information will also be published or cited in Tulfo's subsequent columns in the gentlemanly spirit of responsible journalism and fair play.

—NICOLAS B. LUTERO III,
Ceso III, director IV,
Bureau of Health Facilities
and Services,
Department of Health, Manila

How to stop unofficial use of public cars

THE UNAUTHORIZED use of government vehicles has been a perennial problem. The wanton abuse of "For Official Use Only" vehicle has always been a favorite media subject. Most recently, a TV investigative report showed red-plate cars, vans and pick-ups found in unexpected places—shopping malls, schools, resorts, etc.—and times. Worse, some were conspicuously parked outside KTV bars.

Despite the media exposés, shameless and irresponsible government officials and their subordinates continue to flagrantly use public vehicles for private ends. I have some suggestions that will deter callous officials from doing this condemnable act:

1. Identify each government vehicle with a huge drawing of a Philippine flag across its hood, roof and sides.

2. Superimpose with a mark in bold capital letters: "GOVERNMENT VEHICLE ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS"

3. Write another mark (instead of the typical "How Am I Driving?" phrase): "HOW AM I USING THIS VEHICLE? REPORT TO (certain contact #)."

—JEROME L. ESCOBEDO,
Villas Magallanes Subdivision,
Lapu-Lapu City

Bridge program alive in Manila high school

THIS refers to the "bridge program" which had already been declared optional by the Department of Education itself last June. But it is still being implemented by some schools like the Manuel L. Quezon High School in Sta. Ana, Manila.

Through the INQUIRER, the undersigned would like to call the attention of Education Secretary Florencio Abad and school superintendent Luisa Quiñones of Manila to stop with finality MLQ High School and others from imposing the unscientific program without the parents' and students' written consent and conformity.

As to the low quality of high school education prevalent in public schools, may I suggest to Secretary Abad, school superintendents and local government executives to investigate thoroughly why the quality of education is poor. Then they will discover the following:

1. In MLQ High School, most students (freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors) do not have textbooks and reference materials because teachers refuse to release the needed books/reading materials to students. How can students acquire knowledge when they do not have books/reference materials to read?

2. Some schools always collect unnecessary and non-academic miscellaneous fees; and contributions for impertinent projects that have no bearing on classroom subjects. These additional expenses cut on student allowances.

3. Emphasis on Math and Science subjects as if a student is not qualified to be in the regular freshman course if he does not have an inborn talent in Math. Not all students have that; not even .001 percent of the entire student population has it. The bridge program will be a failure forever because it is premised on a wrong assumption that Filipino students are inherently gifted in Math, even as Americans and the Russians lag in Math.

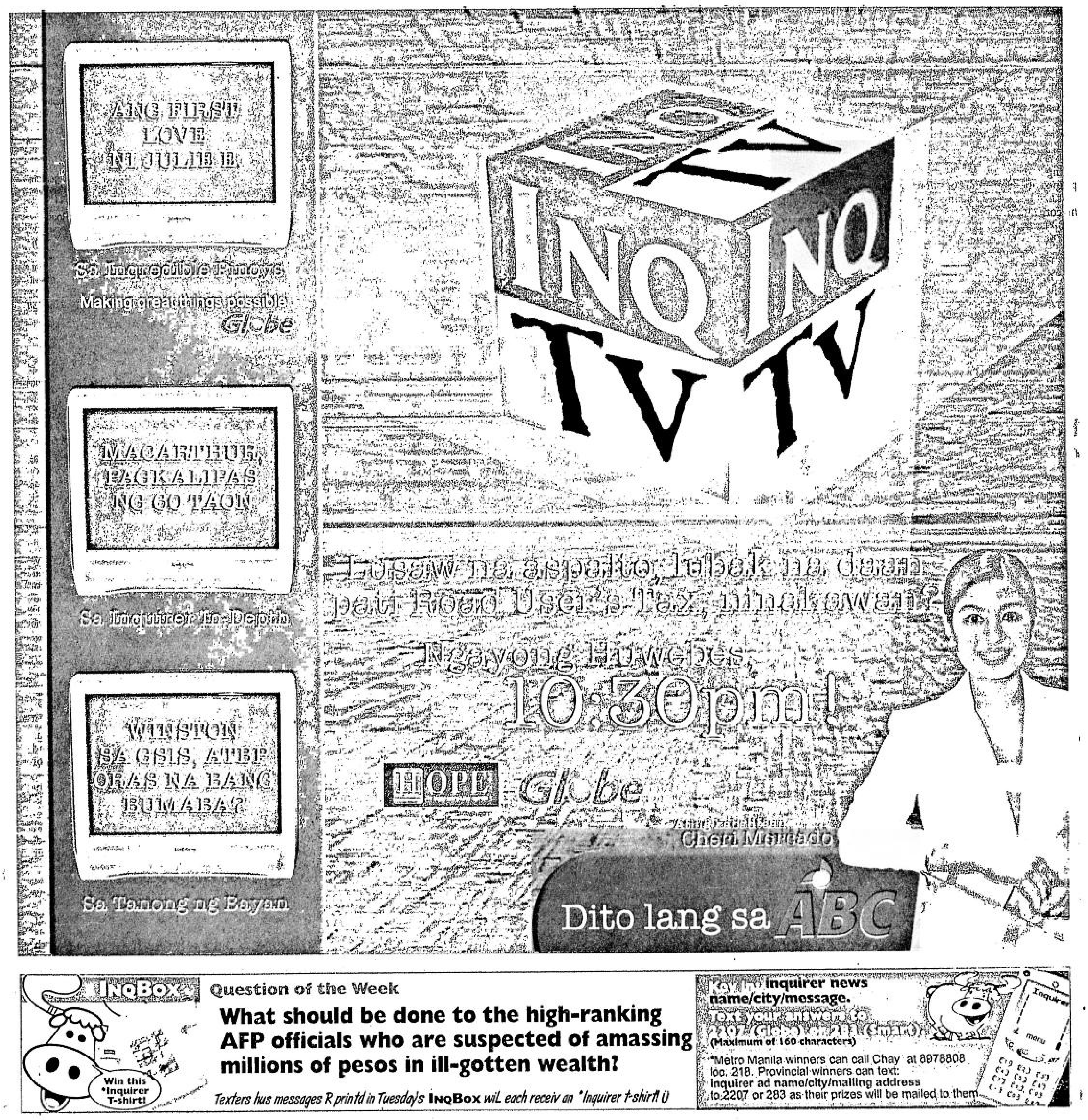
The purpose of education is to give all-around education in languages, natural science, social sciences (which the DepEd abolished), basic Math, Philosophy, the Arts and Letters.

The pre-Roco curriculum existing before 2001 should be restored in place of the bridge program. Meanwhile, the DepEd should investigate why MLQ High School refuses to give books/reference materials to its students and why irrelevant projects are imposed on the students.

—ANTONIO HIZON,
872 Rizal Ave. cor. Makata St.,
Sta. Cruz, Manila

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@ inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.


ANG FIRST LOVE NI JULIE B.
Sa Inqredible Pinoys
Making great things possible
Globe
MACARTHUR, PAGKALIPAS NG 60 TAON
Sa Inquirer in Depth
WINSTON SA GSIS, ATBP. ORAS NA BANG BUMABA?
Sa Tanong ng Bayan
INQ TV
Lusaw na aspalto, lubak na daan pati Road User's Tax, ninakawan?
Ngayong Huwebes, 10:30pm!
HOPE
Globe
Cheri Mercado
Dito lang sa ABC

INQBox
Win this *Inquirer T-shirt!

Question of the Week

What should be done to the high-ranking AFP officials who are suspected of amassing millions of pesos in ill-gotten wealth?

Texters hus messages R printd in Tuesday's INQBox *wiL each receiv an *Inquirer t-shirt! :)*

Key in: inquirer news name/city/message.
Text your answers to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
(Maximum of 160 characters)

*Metro Manila winners can call Chay at 8978808 loc. 218. Provincial winners can text: inquirer ad name/city/mailing address to 2207 or 283 as their prizes will be mailed to them.

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) *Assistant Editor* Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Fate of North toll rests in GMA hands

By Tonette Orejas and Jun Malig
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—In the end, it might be President Macapagal-Arroyo who would have to deal with and act on appeals to bring down the proposed toll at the rehabilitated North Luzon Expressway, Pampanga Vice Gov. Joseller Guiao said.

Guiao raised this prospect after the provincial board on Monday held the second of three public hearings on the rates that the Lopez-owned Manila North Tollways Corp. planned to collect starting December when it takes over the management of the 80-km highway from the state-owned Philippine National Construction Corp.

This came after Guiao and the provincial board asked the MNTC to reduce the P2.49 per kilometer toll rate along the Pampanga portion of the expressway.

It was the Office of the President, he noted, who approved the supplemental toll operations agreement (STOA).

In a meeting with members of the Society of Pampanga Columnists on Monday, Guiao said instead of charging a uniform end-to-end P2.49 per kilometer toll rate, the MNTC should adopt a "pro-rated" tolling scheme.

"The MNTC should charge a lower toll fee along the Pampanga side of the expressway because it did not spend as much money as it did in Bulacan where the highway had been expanded to eight lanes," he told reporters here.

Under the STOA, the government is the guarantor, the PNCC the franchisee and the MNTC the concessionaire.

An MNTC report said the STOA, with favorable recommendations from the Department of Public Works and Highways, was approved in June 1998 after undergoing 38 drafts between June 1996 and August 1997.

According to the MNTC, the STOA was also approved by the Toll Regulatory Board, which is comprised of representatives from the DPWH, Department of Finance, Department of Transportation and Communications, the National Economic and Development Authority and the private sector.

Guiao said he feared that all options being offered to reduce the rates and make motorists and commuters pay less for using the NLEX would go to naught.

"The STOA has the imprimatur of the President and the changes may not be considered because of predetermined factors," he added.

MNTC President Jose de Jesus had said that foreign investors were looking at how the government was treating the project and if it was going to end up like the Ninoy Aquino International Airport's Terminal 3.

Gunmen raid village, set fire to houses

COTABATO CITY—At least a dozen armed men, believed to be members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), stormed a mountain village of Alamada in North Cotabato leaving beleaguered villagers and three burned houses on Monday.

Alamada Mayor Ernesto Concepcion said the attack came following the killing on Saturday of Abdullah Dumancap by a neighbor, Bayaso Gante, in Barangay Dado.

"It could have been a retaliation by Dumancap relatives," said Concepcion of the attackers, "who came from Buldon, Maguindanao," a known MILF stronghold.

The suspects, armed with "long firearms," torched the houses of those identified with the Gante clan, the mayor said.

To prevent an evacuation, Concepcion ordered the deployment of policemen.

Residents said prior to the killing, Dumancap had complained about a pet dog of Gante that had been causing damage to his corn farm in Barangay Dado.

Dumancap warned he would kill the dog if its owner continued to leave it astray.

In the early morning of Saturday, Dumancap spotted Gante's dog in his farm, gave chase until it reached its master's house, where he gunned it down.

Gante felt the killing of his pet inside his premises was an insult and retaliated by shooting Dumancap, witnesses told Concepcion. *Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

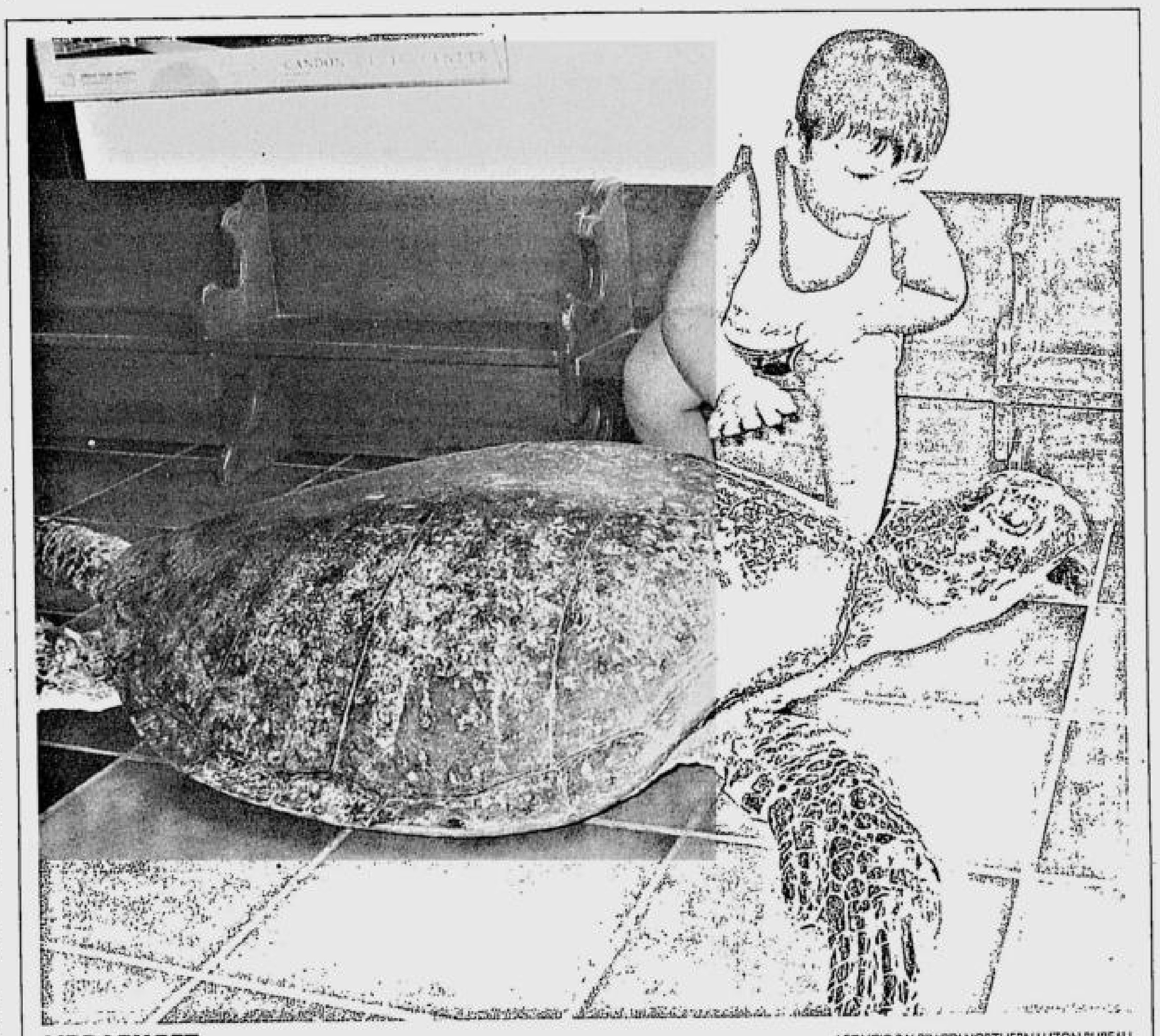
Herrera slams OFW case delay

FORMER senator Ernesto "Boy" Herrera, the secretary general of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, today asked the Court of Appeals to fast track the resolution of the discrimination suit filed by 1,975 overseas Filipino workers against their former employers in the Middle East, the US corporate giants Brown and Root Inc. (now known as Kellog Brown & Root or KBR) and its associate, the Halliburton Group of Companies.

"The consequences of judicial delays for ordinary litigants are immense, but in the case of these OFWs it is even tragic," Herrera said in a press statement.

"They have been waging this 'David vs Goliath' battle against Halliburton and Kellog Brown & Root for a good 21 years now, and 160 of their fellow workers and litigants have already died without seeing a single dollar of the money these US companies owe them."

In 2002, the National Labor Relations Commission under then Chair Roy Señeres awarded through a "final and executory" judgement $609 million in back wages, damages, and other employment benefits to the 1,975 OFWs who were employed by Brown & Root and Halliburton in their Middle East projects from 1976 to the 1990s.



LEONCIO BALBIN/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

LIBRARY PET
A preserved giant turtle draws the attention and curiosity of a child who touches the animal being displayed at the Candon City public library and display center.

1.5M bags of onions unsold; smuggling blamed

By Anselmo Roque
PDI Central Luzon Desk

PALAYAN CITY—About 1.5 million bags of onions in the hands of growers and traders remain unsold and may not likely be traded as the market is flooded with onions smuggled by some businessmen in connivance with unscrupulous agriculture officials.

Officials of the Union of Growers and Traders of Onions in the Philippines or Ugat told Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap on Monday that onion growers and traders had lost hope of selling their commodity.

They said another onion planting season is about to start and the next harvest will surely now go to waste. They estimated the value of unsold onions at P1 billion. Each bag contains 20 kilos.

Ugat officers, led by their president Erlinda Abad, said some Department of Agriculture officials, particularly those in the Bureau of Plant Industry, allowed some businessmen to release smuggled onions from the Bureau of Customs without the import permits.

"*Naniniwala po kami sa katapatan ninyo* Secretary Yap *na hindi kayo nagbigay ng permiso sa pag-angkat ng sibuyas. Pero mayroon pong mga tao sa likod ninyo na gumawa nito* (We believed in your sincerity Secretary Yap when you said you had not issued permits to import onions. But some of your men did this (giving of permits)," Abad said.

Yap attended the launching of the Tipid Abono fertilization program aimed at helping farmers reduce their expenses on commercial fertilizers from P2,000 to P4,000 a hectare.

Abad, along with other Ugat officers, showed Yap copies of permits issued by certain DA officials to a number of businessmen that allowed the release of smuggled onions.

The smuggled onions, according to Ugat officers, are being sold in the market at P25 a kilo.

The officers said it was unthinkable how imported onions could only be priced that much despite the high cost of importation of goods.

Onions produced in the country are sold at P35 a kilo during the wet season because of the high cold storage fees paid by farmers through their cooperatives and traders.

ROUNDUP

Suspected rebel nabbed

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Army soldiers and policemen arrested a suspected rebel in Floridablanca town on Wednesday night, bringing to three the number of guerrillas arrested since Oct. 2 in Pampanga. Reports said John Capati Mercado was arrested after government forces clashed with five members of the Rebolusyonaryong Hukbong Bayan led by one Domingo Tarectecan, alias Lakay, in Barangay Cabangcalan. Two guns were reportedly seized from Mercado. On Oct. 2, the Army and the police arrested Jose Roxas, alias Dona, and Donald Navarro in Sitio Darabulbul in Barangay San Roque, Sta. Ana town. The two were said to be part of a 50-member New People's Army unit seen in the village. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Fire probe

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The Pampanga provincial board would hold a separate investigation of the supermarket fire that killed eight women workers here on Oct. 2. The provincial board's committees on public order and security and on public works and highways will hold a joint investigation "to bring justice to the victims by making those responsible people answerable for their acts either by omission or commission," Resolution No. 326 said. The resolution, sponsored by Board Member Aurelio Gonzales, said deaths could have been avoided had safety measures been adopted and rules and laws involving building permits strictly followed. *Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Tree cutting opposed

BATANGAS CITY—The City Solid Waste Management Office has appealed to the Philippine Ports Authority and other government agencies concerned not to allow any tree cutting on the Bolbok Diversion Road. The office wants to save thousands of trees along the road that, it said, will be affected by the pipe extension project of the Batangas City Water District (BCWD). Engineer Arturo Macaraig of the BCWD explained that the project is part of their expansion and improvement program for the benefit of the residents. *Arlene Javier Ona, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Convention of judges

THE PHILIPPINE Trial Judges League, the organization of first level court judges in municipal trial courts, will hold its 4th annual convention on Oct. 14-16, at the Casablanca Hotel in Legazpi City. Under the joint auspices of the Supreme Court and the Philippine Judicial Academy, the national convention has for its theme "A Commitment to Serve in the Interest of Justice and Community." Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. will keynote the event. Topics include summary procedure (applicability in BP22 cases); preliminary investigation, search warrants and warrants of arrests; computation of penalties; the new code of judicial conduct; mediation: concept, rules and procedure and action plan on judicial reform.

Arceo clan reunion

THE ARCEO clan reunion will be held Oct. 16-17 at St. Bridget's College covered court in Batangas City. The clan's doctors and nurses from the country and abroad will conduct a medical mission at the parish hall of the Basilica grounds on Oct. 16 as part of the reunion events. Activities on Oct. 17 start with a 10 a.m. Mass, musical program, lunch and games. The book "Arceo Generations, a Family Tree," edited by Cesar Sol Arceo, is in the works, highlighting the history and achievements of the family members.

Pampanga health workers demand ₱27M in unpaid benefits

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Some 800 government health workers in Pampanga, unpaid of their hazard pay in the last four years, appealed for the immediate release of P27 million, the amount they should get in 2004.

Dr. Freddie Anunciacion, president of the Pampanga Medical Officers Association, told the Sangguniang Panlalawigan during Monday's regular session that the continued non-payment of benefits had been forcing doctors and nurses in the employ of the provincial government to seek jobs in private firms or abroad.

"This is going to lead to a crisis in the local health sector like what's happening now in the Visayas," Anunciacion said. About 50 percent of the capitol's 1,800 employees are assigned to the 10 district hospitals in the province, it was learned.

"We are not demanding for new benefits. We simply want the capitol to implement the law," Anunciacion said, referring to the Magna Carta of Public Health Workers (Republic Act 7305).

A Department of Budget and Management circular clarified that the granting of hazard pay was mandatory for local governments. The law's revised implementing rules and regulation said the grant should have been implemented since Jan. 1, 2001.

According to Anunciacion, the hazard pay is equivalent to 25 percent of the monthly basic pay received by those with Salary Grade 19 and below. It is 5 percent for those with Salary Grade 20 and up. The amount could range from P2,000 and P3,000 monthly.

He said they took their case to the provincial board after provincial budget officer Nida Manalad confirmed that the local finance committee had deleted the allocations for the hazard pay in the 2004 budget.

Gov. Mark Lapid has not yet replied to the appeal they submitted in an Aug. 23 letter. Former governor and now Sen. Manuel Lapid did not act on their April 30 appeal, Anunciacion said. Dr. Ernesto Santos, provincial health chief, endorsed both letters.

Provincial Board Member Lilia Pineda, chair of the board's health committee, said she was having the budget reviewed and the issue taken up with Governor Lapid this week.

Anunciacion said that without the hazard pay, health workers especially those immediately exposed to hazardous work, were paying for expensive vaccine shots worth P1,000 per shot.

"Add to that . . . the fact that provincial health workers now work in overcrowded hospitals and with ever increasing number of patients but we still try as much to deliver quality health care," he added.

ESL
HARI NG INSTALLMENT
EMILIO S. LIM APPLIANCES
THE LEADER IN SELF-FINANCED AND PERSONALIZED INSTALLMENT SALE
NORTH CENTRAL EAST WEST SOUTH
DOUBLE REBATE ON PROMPT PAYMENT
SHARP NO DOWN PAYMENT
WASHING MACHINES DESCRIPTION
SHARP ES-450WS
FOR INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTS CALL Ms. MARIANNE
AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING BRANCHES

PCSO TODAY

It pays to have lotto in your community

LGUs get more than P777-M from PCSO Charity Fund

ATTENTION NGOs, institutions, and agencies performing charity work in cities and municipalities with lotto outlets. Avail or access the 5% share of your LGU in the portion of the multi-million peso PCSO Charity Fund generated by the lotto outlets in your community.

by Ferdinand G. Mendoza

Provincial and local government units playing host to lotto outlets throughout the country have received more than P700 million from 1996 to the present as their share in the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office's (PCSO's) charity fund.

Over 60 provincial governments, 80 cities and 270 municipalities benefited from Executive Orders 357 and 357-A issued in 1996 by then President Fidel V. Ramos that allocated a 5-percent share for local government units from the lotto charity fund.

Section 4 of EO 357 gives charity work-based non-government organizations (NGOs), institutions and agencies the right to avail of the charity fund allocated to their LGU, subject to limitations on use, as laid down in Republic Act (R.A.) 1169 or the PCSO charter.

This means that the charity fund allocated to LGUs and accessed by NGOs and other charitable institutions should be used for medical assistance of indigents in their respective locality.

An "indigent" is defined by PCSO as a Filipino family or individual whose income falls below the poverty threshold or one who earns not more than P4,961 a month.

The LGU share in PCSO's charity fund is over and above other assistance rendered by PCSO to LGUs such as donations of ambulances, medical and hospital equipment, and endowment funds to hospitals and charitable institutions.

Since 1996, the PCSO released the said funds to LGUs on a semestral basis, or every six months. The recipient LGU is tasked to ensure that the fund given to them is properly utilized in accordance with the services and programs of PCSO.

PCSO maintains and operates lotto outlets in LGUs nationwide. Its areas of operations are divided into these departments: Northern and Central Luzon; Central; Southern Tagalog and Bicol Region; and Visayas-Mindanao (VisMin).

The top five LGUs that received the lion's share of this fund are all in Metro Manila.

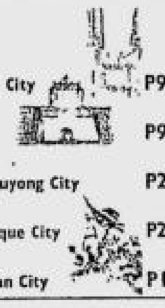
Quezon City topped the list when it received its share totaling P98.2 million from 1996 to the first half of 2004. Manila came in second as it received a total of P90 million as its share from the charity fund of the lotto outlets it hosts, also during the same period.

The rest of the Top 5 LGUs include: Mandaluyong City, P22.3 million; Parañaque, P22.12 million; and Caloocan City, P18.3 million.

The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office's charter, which is embodied in Republic Act 1169, states that 30 percent of the agency's earnings from its games should go to its charity fund. EOs 357 and 357-A state that cities will get a 5-percent share of the charity fund generated by the lotto outlets they host, while a host municipality will get 7 percent which it will share with its province at a 5:2 ratio.

TOP 5

Cities that garnered the most charity funds generated by the lotto outlets operating in their areas from 1996 to the first half of 2004.



1st Quezon City	P98.2M
2nd Manila	P90M
3rd Mandaluyong City	P22.3M
4th Paranaque City	P22.12M
5th Caloocan City	P18.3M

Legislative Charity

PCSO spends P8.9 billion to help implement RAs and EOs

NOT ALL PCSO CHARITY funds go directly to charity. Between 1994 and the second half of this year, the charity agency released P8.9 billion to fund the implementation of executive orders, as well as various laws enacted by Congress.

This was revealed in a report made by the PCSO Budget and Accounting Department, adding that the P8.9 billion represented 76% of the P11 billion mandatory contributions set by Republic Acts and Executive Orders.

As contained in the PCSO charter, mandatory contributions refer to funds contributed by the PCSO to government entities, as a result of special laws enacted by Congress.

Over a 10-year stretch, PCSO funds earmarked for charity were used to fast-track the implementation of laws concerning drug-trafficking, socialized and low-cost housing, funding assistance to higher education, scholarship fund for migrant workers, providing funds for sports development, and the upgrading of hospitals.

Among the highest contributions sourced from PCSO charity funds were funds earmarked for RA 7660, known as the documentary stamp tax, which amounted to P5.7 billion. Next were contributions for the PDEA fund (EO 218) at P825 million. The PDEA was created for the efficient and effective law enforcement of all the provisions on dangerous drugs as provided in R.A. No.9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

Local government units also had its share at P777 million by virtue of EO 357 or Allocation of Five Percent Share for Local Government Units from the Lotto Charity Fund. EO 357 was signed by former President Fidel Ramos on August 5, 1996.

Contributions or funding assistance to laws passed by legislators comprise almost 60 percent of the total amount of PCSO mandatory contributions.

Other PCSO mandatory contributions include funds released by virtue of the following laws: RA 7835 or the Comprehensive and Integrated Shelter and Urban Development Financing Program (P557 million); RA 7722 or funding assistance to the Commission of Higher Education (CHED) in accordance with the Higher Education Act of 1994 (P328 million); RA 8042 or the congressional migrant workers scholarship fund (P79 million); RA 8313 or the upgrading of the Quirino Memorial Medical Center (P62.5 million); RA 8313 or the Indigenous Peoples Right Act of 1997 (P32 million); RA 6847 or the Integrated Sports Development Program of the Philippine Sports Commission (P16 million); RA 8175 or the Crop Insurance Program (P23 million); RA 8492 or the national museum act (P5 million); and RA 8042, better known as the establishment of a shared information system on migration (P7 million).

PCSO construction assistance and medical equipment donation reach P280 million

FOR THE FIRST nine months of this year, the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) has granted a total of P280 million worth of medical equipment and construction to 75 local government units, hospitals, medical institutions and non-government organizations.

The figure was released by PCSO's Special Projects Department, headed by Romualdo V. Quiñones, which handles requests and proposals for the medical equipment donation and constructions assistance programs of the charity agency.

In particular, PCSO funded the construction requests of 17 institutions, mostly hospitals, that has a collective amount of P107,147,605.80. On the other hand, PCSO donated a total of P172,467,414.80 worth of medical equipment to 58 institutional beneficiaries.

On top of the list of these institutional beneficiaries is the Gabriela Silang General Hospital in Ilocos Sur, which was granted P30 million for the renovation of its facilities.

This was followed by the new Ospital ng Caloocan, which is set to receive P23.02 million worth of medical equipment.

The rest of the top five beneficiaries of these two programs and the corresponding amount approved for them are the following: Habitat for Humanity Philippines Foundation, P20 million for construction; Mandaue City, P19.8 million in medical equipment; and the Jose B. Lingad Memorial Hospital, P15 million for construction. (See table for the complete list of the beneficiaries)

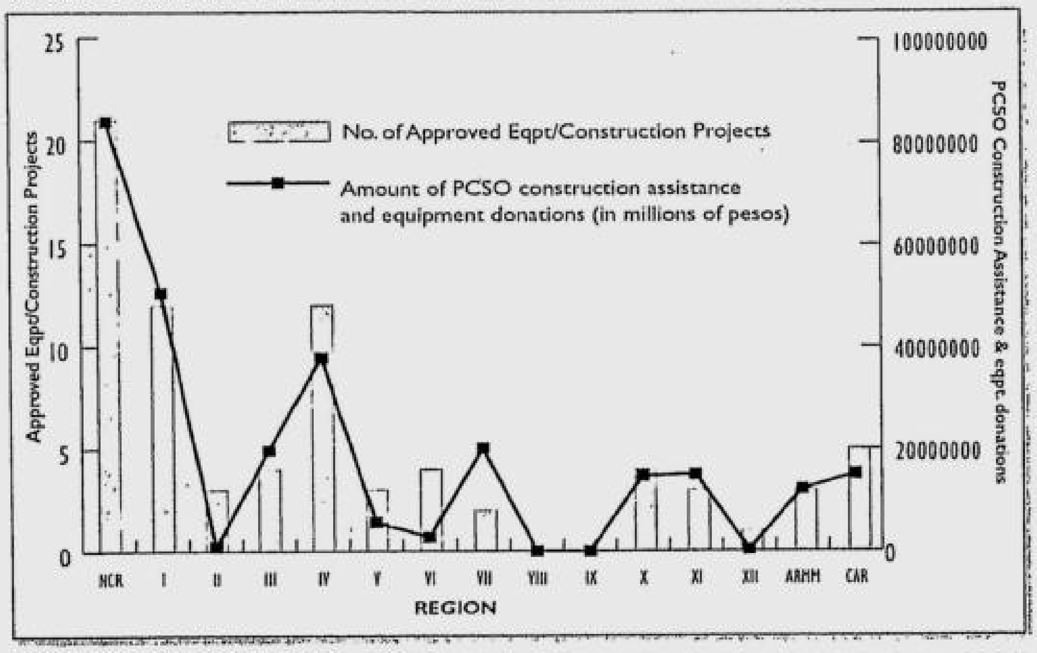
Most of the assistance for construction granted by the PCSO will be used for the renovation of hospital and medical facilities, while majority of the medical equipment donations are for X-ray machines, ultrasound equipment, ECG machines and other similar medical apparatus.

In exchange of the medical equipment donations and assistance for construction, the beneficiaries are asked to identify the PCSO as a partner in the acquisition of medical equipment or in the construction or renovation of a medical facility.

Also, the beneficiaries are asked to support the PCSO in all its undertakings and programs.

Dmitri Arce

Approved Amount of PCSO Construction Assistance & Equipment Donations



Total amount: P279,655,019.80 (January- September 2004)
Source: PCSO Special Projects Department

How hospitals, NGOs and LGUs can apply for financial assistance for endowment funds, medical equipment, medicines, and construction or renovation of health facilities.

The following are the documentary requirements that are needed for the evaluation of a request for financial assistance.

1. Letter request addressed to PCSO Chairman Sergio O. Valencia or General Manager Rosario C. Uriarte.
2. A Hospital Profile that must include the following Information: authorized bed capacity; bed occupancy rate; alternate sources of funding; case mix; staff complement; statistical report, and budgetary allocation for maintenance of equipment (MOOE) and certification of the availability of budget for maintenance or requested equipment.
3. Project Proposal. This must include the project rationale; objectives; target clientele; economic and geographical profile of the area; program plan of implementation; budgetary requirements of the project; and monitoring and evaluation.
4. Endorsement letter from the regional/provincial/city/municipal health officer. For requests for medical equipment, a certification from the Department of Health that the proponent is applying for an upgrade of hospital facilities must be submitted.
5. For non-government organizations and health institutions, SEC registration and by-laws, PCNC accreditation or license from concerned agencies.
6. Price quotations from at least three suppliers with DOH accreditation (for medicines and medical equipment). In the case of sole distributorship, a certification has to be issued from the mother company. Quotations should strictly indicate name, signature and designation of the issuing officer, telephone number and address.
7. Financial statement for at least two years and latest accomplishment report or track record.

For requests for construction or renovation of medical facilities, in addition to the above basic documentary requirements, the following should be submitted:

1. Building plan or specification.
2. Bill of materials.
3. Program of work.
4. Price quotation from three construction firms/dealers.
5. Deed of donation/proof of ownership or certification of the availability of the site.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

PCSO warns LGUs on swindling syndicates

By Dmitri Arce

OFFICIALS OF THE PHILIPPINE Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) warned local government units (LGUs) against a syndicate that has swindled a handful of LGU executives using the PCSO Ambulance Donation Program as bait.

So far, a total of eight municipal mayors have been victimized by the syndicate, which divested these LGU execs of money ranging from P3,500 to as much as P39,000.

Israel G. Estrella, PCSO assistance general manager for corporate communications, said that the syndicate uses his name and another PCSO department manager to make the scam appear credible.

"But the fact is, the acquisition of car ambulances for the program is still under the bidding process and we have not released any new ones. So we would like to inform the general public, especially LGU executives, that if they encounter anything like this, it's a scam. They should contact the PCSO to verify the information," he said.

The modus operandi of this syndicate, Estrella says, begins by misrepresenting the PCSO's Ambulance Donation Program, using the program to lure LGU mayors in releasing funds, in order to avail of their supposed "approved request" for an ambulance from PCSO.

This syndicate sends LGU execs a "Notice of Approval" that bears the letterhead of the PCSO, and indicates that an LGUs request for car ambulance and assorted medicine has been approved by the PCSO Board of Directors in a resolution.

The letter is purportedly signed by Israel Estrella, PCSO assistance general manager for corporate communications, and Teresita Brazil, a department manager at PCSO. The syndicate also supplies cellular phone numbers as "hotlines" that can be reached for the requirements in availing the ambulance donation.

Once the cellphone numbers are contacted, the LGU exec would be asked to deposit a certain amount of money for the supposed delivery of the ambulance, or to be specific, "courier charges." In most cases, municipal mayors are also asked additional donation for the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and for street children projects and they will be asked to deposit the amount in a bank account that the syndicate specifies. In some cases, municipal mayors are asked to send the money via Western Union.

Brazil, when interviewed, said that she was disgusted by the way the syndicate used her and Estrella's name to con municipal mayors into scam. She said that in some of the letters, their middle initials were even incorrect.

"We would like to inform mayors that the PCSO does not ask for anything when it donates ambulances. *Wala pong kapalit ang pagtulong ng* PCSO," she said.

Estrella said that, at present, a total of 16 LGU executives have reported receiving bogus PCSO letter of notices.

"These (16 LGUs) are the cases we are aware of, but I think the syndicate sent letters to more mayors," he said.

Out of the 16 LGUs, eight fell victim to the scam and deposited money into several accounts. The other eight confirmed the information with the PCSO and did not release any fund.

Estrella said that the first incident was reported as early as February this year in a municipality in Zamboanga del Norte. The last known case was only last month, in a municipality in Romblon.

He said the PCSO was swamped with complaints coming from the victimized municipalities.

Lauro A. Patiag, head of PCSO's legal department, said that they are presently collating evidence and information regarding the modus operandi.

He said that they are currently coordinating with the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) for the possible freezing of the suspected bank accounts of the syndicate. He also added that once all evidence are collected, they will file a complaint before the Anti-Fraud and Computer Crimes Division of the National Bureau of Investigation.

VisMin Lotto revenues swell by 22.4%

LOTTO PATRONS in Visayas and Mindanao are slowly keeping up with their Luzon counterparts as lotto sales in the region registered a strong showing for this year.

Lotto sales in the Visayas and Mindanao areas have posted a 22.4 percent increase for the first seven months of this year compared to the same period last year, according to officials of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

VisMin department manager William H. Medici, in his report to Conrado C. Zabella, PCSO assistant general manager for on-line lottery sector, said that lotto sales in his area swelled to P1.76 billion from January to August of this year, compared to P1.44 billion in 2003, or an increase of about P320 million.

With the present rate of lotto sales, Medici said, they predict an increase in lotto revenues from VisMin operations for the rest of the year 2004. Specifically, he said they are projecting P2.64 billion, in lotto sales for this year or 21 percent higher than the total sales in 2003, which is P2.19 billion.

Roberto Pio C. Cinco, acting division chief of the PCSO Cebu provincial office, explained that the increase in revenues from last year can be attributed to a budding lotto market in the VisMin area.

"The rollout of lotto terminals was gradual. This probably allowed the lotto market in Visayas and Mindanao to mature slowly," said Cinco.

He also attributed the increase in sales to the introduction of new games and products in the VisMin area like the Lotto 3 Digit game. Lotto patrons in VisMin can also play the Lotto 4 Digit, the Lotto 6/42, the Mega Lotto 6/45 and the Super Lotto 6/49.

VisMin officials of the PCSO also projected about P3.12 billion in lotto sales for the year 2005, which is 17 percent higher than 2004 projections and 42 percent higher than actual sales in 2003.

The PCSO VisMin operation center has provincial district offices in Cebu, Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Tacloban, General Santos City, Zamboanga and Butuan City that operates lotto games in over 30 provinces in the region.

At present, there are a total of 673 terminals scattered throughout the Visayas and Mindanao regions.

The growing up of Jose and Butoy

THEY WERE TWO BOYs that grew to manhood in different neighborhoods. To say that one came from a rich family and made an honest living as a journalist, while the other was an impoverished, prison-tattooed thug who earned his keep by robbing people of their possessions, would be a too obvious delineation that could oversimplify the significance of their encounter as a case of good meeting evil.

HALF-EMPTY HALF-FULL

Rosario C. Uriarte

For there is nothing simple or obvious about death and violence and crime.

The headlines tried to capture what had happened: *'Young editor fights for cellphone, loses life instead'*

Shortly after midnight of September 23, inside a passenger bus bound for Pasay, Jose Luis Villanueva, assistant business editor of *Today*, was killed by one of three hold up men. Police identified the key suspect as Rommel "Butoy" Capones, a member of the Sputnik gang. Witnesses said Villanueva was stabbed in the neck after he refused to give up his Nokia 7610 to Capones. Police arrested all three suspected cellphone robbers days after Villanueva's death.

I never knew Jose Luis Villanueva. But I learned much about him in the days following his untimely demise. Media friends and acquaintances lamented the passing of the 29-year-old Fordham University graduate, who traded a life of privilege and luxury to live simply as a conscientious, though lowly-paid journalist.

"*Sayang talaga si Jose,*" said an editor pal who remembered him as a newspaper-business-reporter-by-day and a magazine-writer-by-night.

"Jose was a prolific writer who relished doing magazine features. He said that in a magazine, he could be creative in telling his business story since it offered more pages per story," she recounted.

My editor friend also told me that once, during a cigarette break, Jose told her of wanting to have his own business magazine, the way his grandfather had, for a time, his own newspaper.

"We even discussed how it would be a magazine that was strong on research and specialized in stories that will explain to the average Filipino what was really happening in Philippine business and the nation's economy. It would be informative and useful to everybody," she said.

It was apparent that Jose had earned the admiration and respect of his peers. I myself was impressed. This rich man's son who chose to live with little means, was also an individual who shunned the elitist notion that the field of business was only for the moneyed and the highly educated. More importantly, he thought of a way to popularize business in a nation that was in dire need of enterprise. This was the spirit I was always eager to spot in every *Pinoy* I came across, whether here or abroad. A spirit that dared to take stock of life's realities, and then bothered to lengthily and creatively come up with ways to improve it – not just for oneself, but for others too.

Which was why it bothered me that Jose's death gave rise to yet another "blame-it-on-everybody-but-me" session. Some blamed the police for not being serious in their anti-cellphone theft campaign. Others blamed the government for not being effective in its peace and order campaign. Most, of course, blamed the suspected killer, demanding that he too go the way of Jose.

I wonder, if Jose could speak, would he have gone on a blaming spree? Please, lest I be misunderstood, I am not saying that we should not be critical of wrong-doings. Especially a wrong-doing that so suddenly, so violently ended the poignantly beautiful life.

Wouldn't this young man see beyond the violence inflicted on him and know – the way people who have grown intimate with being poor know – that it is not only violence we should police, but the grinding poverty that turn simple folk into monsters and beasts.

When the rich man comes up with creative and effective ways to help uplift the life and well-being of the poor man, he is not only saving the poor man. He is also saving himself, his family, his loved ones, and yes, poignantly beautiful people like Jose Luis Villanueva.

Rosario C. Uriarte is the General Manager of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO). Kindly e-mail all comments suggestions to mahal_kong_gm@yahoo.com

Feedback

22 Setyembre 2004

G. Rosario C. Uriarte
General Manager
Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office
E. Rodriguez Avenue, Quezon City

Mahal naming General Manager Uriarte,

Ako po ay si G. Patricia Salazar-Anio, isang maybahay na nakatira sa 14 Bagong Pag-asa, San Miguel Bulacan. Kami po ng aking asawa at aming anim na nalalabing anak ay nabubuhay sa pakikisaka.

Ako po ay naglakas-loob lumiham upang ihingi ng tulong-pagpalibing o burial assistance ang aking yumaong anak na si John Patrick Anio, magtatatlong gulang, na namatay dahil sa sakit na tuberculosis at leukemia noong Setyembre 9.

G. Uriarte, dumulog na po ako sa inyong tanggapan noong Agosto 18 upang humingi ng libreng gamot at tulong pinansiyal para sa anak kong si John Patrick na noon ay buhay pa at nakatigil sa National Children's Hospital sa E. Rodriguez, Quezon City. Ang nakausap ko po noon ay isang PCSO social worker na nagpakilalang si Ira Salayon. Pinabalik-balik po niya kami hanggang noong Setyembre 13, sinabihan niya akong dalawa hanggang tatlong linggo pa ang aking hihintayin bago mabigyan ng libreng gamot ang aking bunso.

Patay na po si John Patrick. Lubog po kami sa utang. Dahil dito, gusto ko po sanang humingi sa huling pagkakataon ng tulong para maibayad sa utang namin sa punerarya. Kalakip po ng liham na ito ay ang death certificate, funeral contract, barangay certificate, at medical certificate ng aking anak.

Maraming salamat po.

Lubos na gumagalang,
PATRICIA S. ANIO

EDITOR'S NOTE: We forwarded the letter to PCSO and this is their reply: PCSO deeply regrets the death of John Patrick Anio and other indigents that the agency was not able to reach and serve on time. It is a fact that there have been a number of instances when requests for medical assistance later became requests for burial assistance because the documents of the requesting patient took so long to process. This ironic and unacceptable outcome has led the PCSO management and board to call for a review of the agency's systems and procedures with regards to processing of indigent requests. At the moment, we have begun implementing the PCSO express lane for requests in the P20 thousand and below range. This is just the first of many reforms the PCSO will undergo to ensure faster, efficient service. We have granted the request of Ms. Patricia S. Anio. We welcome feedback of this sort because it allows us to fine-tune PCSO reform measures. We enjoin all to help us become more effective in providing assistance and service by writing their experiences in availing of PCSO's various services in this address:

The General Manager
Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office
E. Rodriguez Avenue, Quezon City.
Email address: mahal_kong_gm@yahoo.com

Official Draw Results

MegaLotto 6/45 22
(in any order)
34 19 11 21 39 16
Luzon Jackpot Prize 1 winners of P29,834,968.80
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 5 3 0 6
Suertres: 8 5 4
Lotto EZ 2: 22 29

SuperLotto 6/49 23
(in any order)
32 28 21 35 31 29
Jackpot Prize no winners of P52,385,461.80
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 6 Digit Game: 9 3 4 1 6 7
1st Prize no winners of P1,777,098.22
Suertres: 1 0 3
Lotto EZ 2: 17 7

MegaLotto 6/45 24
(in any order)
45 28 26 42 12 44
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P4,667,581.80
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 2 4 0 6
Suertres: 5 1 5
Lotto EZ 2: 14 12

Lotto 6/42 25
(in any order)
23 29 25 39 14 16
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P3,000,000.00
VisMin Jackpot Prize no winners of P7,439,988.06
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 6 Digit Game: 0 4 9 6 9 2
1st Prize no winner of P2,195,677.90
Suertres: 7 3 9
Lotto EZ 2: 26 10

SuperLotto 6/49 26
(in any order)
44 27 37 31 39 2
Jackpot Prize no winners of P59,727,731.70
All following numbers should be in exact order
Suertres: 5 7 7
Lotto EZ 2: 13 15

MegaLotto 6/45 27
(in any order)
45 3 35 42 23 20
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P9,199,497.30
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 3 8 1 4
Suertres: 4 9 0
Lotto EZ 2: 8 17

Lotto 6/42 28
(in any order)
2 6 13 25 1 9
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P6,118,383.00
VisMin Jackpot Prize no winners of P8,334,841.27
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 6 Digit Game: 4 7 5 8 3 2
1st Prize no winners of P2,293,510.90
Suertres: 6 5 9
Lotto EZ 2: 16 23

MegaLotto 6/45 29
(in any order)
26 42 17 20 19 8
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P13,649,825.70
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 1 6 7 1
Suertres: 9 6 7
Lotto EZ 2: 30 25

SuperLotto 6/49 30
(in any order)
4 26 1 37 33 17
Jackpot Prize no winners of P68,405,723.40
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 6 Digit Game: 9 9 6 0 5 9
1st Prize no winners of P2,776,694.98
Suertres: 9 7 0
Lotto EZ 2: 8 30

MegaLotto 6/45 1
(in any order)
9 39 44 6 43 36
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P18,833,207.40
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 6 7 7 0
Suertres: 6 9 5
Lotto EZ 2: 28 5

Lotto 6/42 2
(in any order)
19 17 37 38 20 10
Luzon Jackpot Prize 1 winners of P9,399,821.00
VisMin Jackpot Prize no winners of P9,239,915.16
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 6 Digit Game: 2 2 5 9 8 1
1st Prize no winners of P3,078,352.20
Suertres: 8 0 8
Lotto EZ 2: 17 26

SuperLotto 6/49 3
(in any order)
27 9 39 20 22 13
Jackpot Prize no winners of P77,019,075.00
All following numbers should be in exact order
Suertres: 9 7 0
Lotto EZ 2: 3 13

MegaLotto 6/45 4
(in any order)
28 24 44 2 19 39
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P24,179,589.00
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 4 6 3 6
Suertres: 1 4 3
Lotto EZ 2: 2 1

Lotto 6/42 5
(in any order)
19 5 3 35 34 23
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P3,252,774.00
VisMin Jackpot Prize no winners of P10,166,459.43
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 6 Digit Game: 1 9 6 2 1 4
1st Prize 1 winners of P3,128,352.00
Suertres: 8 7 1
Lotto EZ 2: 6 9

MegaLotto 6/45 6
(in any order)
45 21 13 41 4 44
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P29,882,212.50
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 0 2 7 2
Suertres: 7 3 0
Lotto EZ 2: 16 7

SuperLotto 6/49 7
(in any order)
8 19 30 23 25 15
Jackpot Prize 1 winners of P87,123,380.40
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 6 Digit Game: 7 2 9 6 9 9
1st Prize no winners of P363,197.60
Suertres: 2 4 8
Lotto EZ 2: 12 31

MegaLotto 6/45 8
(in any order)
19 33 2 41 7 11
Luzon Jackpot Prize 1 winners of P36,029,511.00
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 1 2 5 8
Suertres: 3 9 8
Lotto EZ 2: 27 31

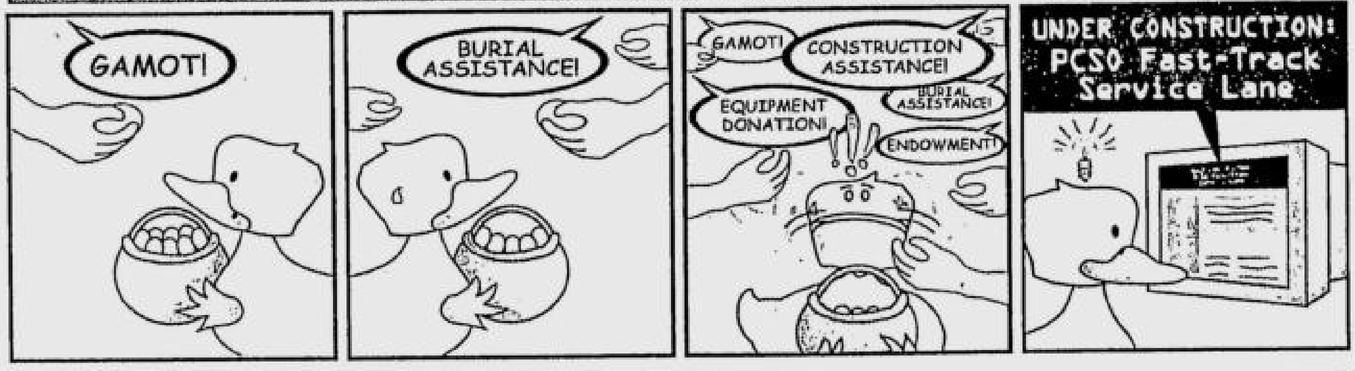
Lotto 6/42 9
(in any order)
30 16 15 4 8 29
Luzon Jackpot Prize 1 winners of P6,557,533.00
VisMin Jackpot Prize no winners of P11,190,693.51
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 6 Digit Game: 8 6 1 4 5 7
1st Prize no winners of P413,197.60
Suertres: 5 0 3
Lotto EZ 2: 13 23

SuperLotto 6/49 10
(in any order)
1 42 41 27 20 44
Jackpot Prize no winners of P8,000,000.00
All following numbers should be in exact order
Suertres: 8 4 1
Lotto EZ 2: 21 26

MegaLotto 6/45 11
(in any order)
12 37 45 33 25 22
Luzon Jackpot Prize no winners of P4,869,454.80
All following numbers should be in exact order
Lotto 4 Digit Game: 0 3 2 5
Suertres: 4 7 3
Lotto EZ 2: 9 26

GOLDA: Ang Swerteng Gansa

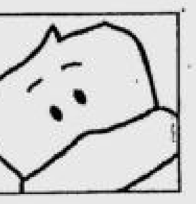
Chrysler de Guzman


GAMOT!
BURIAL ASSISTANCE!
GAMOT!
CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE!
EQUIPMENT DONATION!
BURIAL ASSISTANCE!
ENDOWMENT!
UNDER CONSTRUCTION: PCSO Fast-Track Service Lane

PCSO Today Section comes out every other Wednesday.

WATCH OUT FOR OUR
Oct. 27 issue!

Our Next Top Stories:
☐ PCSO cuts operating cost by 30%
☐ How to use your Greater Medical Access PhilHealth card
☐ Getting the most out of your Lotto Bet Card
☐ New Sweepstakes Gimmick
and many more...



E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Rolando B. Fernandez

Ilocos tribes finally get ancestral lands

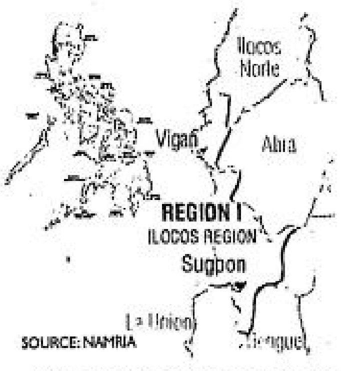
ILOCOS Sur Gov. Luis 'Chavit' Singson with tribe members in Sugpon town during the awarding of the Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title covering the whole town. UNDP CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By Leoncio Balbin Jr.
Sugpon, Ilocos Sur

THE WHOLE day of Sept. 22, villagers in Sugpon, the southernmost town of Ilocos Sur, were in a festive mood. They butchered a pig, chanted, sang and danced to thank government officials for granting them their ancestral lands.

The occasion was the awarding by the government of the Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) to 6,340 hectares covering the whole of Sugpon (pop: 3,307).

The issuance of the CADT would allow Sugpons to acquire their forest lands that belonged to the government.



SOURCE: NAMRIA

"The people of Sugpon finally have their land security as they can have the lands titled," said Marvin Biligan, provincial officer of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP).

The town's name was derived from a phrase in the Kankanaey dialect, "mansugpon tako," which means "let's put our share together and divide among ourselves equally later," said Biligan.

It was taken from the folktale of two indigenous hunters who settled their dispute the customary way.

The Sugpons' biggest glory is giving their sugpon (share) in the processing of the CADT, which was issued by the NCIP on July 16 and awarded to residents on Sept. 22.

This town, 128 kilometers from Vigan City, can only be reached through motorized banca during the rainy season as it is isolated by the Amburayan River.

Sugpon is 70 percent timber or forestland. This is the reason residents find it difficult to have their lands titled. Most residents of Sugpon belong to the Kankanaey and Bago tribes.

The issuance of CADT is the first in the region and could be the fastest as it was processed and issued in six months. Based on the experience in other regions, it takes one to two years before a CADT is issued because of conflicts and the lukewarm support of residents.

"The people of Sugpon gave us their full support," Biligan said.

The process of titling the ancestral domain was made possible by funds from the United Nations Development Program and the New Zealand Aid for International Development through the NCIP project Empowerment of Indigenous Peoples for Sustainable Management of Ancestral Domains.

Biligan said the UNDP allotted P1.6 million for the application and issuance of CADT for Sugpon, Alilem and Cervantes towns, all in Ilocos Sur.

He said that aside from land security, the CADT served as formal recognition of the residents' claims and right to self-determination.

Digitally Enhanced Cordless Telephone

Panasonic
ideas for life

Panasonic Wireless Technology... Smart people choose Panasonic

KX-TCD500 P6,690

KX-TCD400 P3,590
Also available in blue

KX-TC1230 P5,490

KX-TC1220 P3,890

KX-TC1210 P3,090

KX-TC2000 P1,880

IMPORTANT SERVICE NOTICE
Panasonic Philippines notifies the public that we are not allowed to repair Panasonic 900 MHz, 2.4 GHz & 5.8 GHz cordless phones as per regulation by National Telecommunications Commission (NTC). Such cordless phones are illegal in the Philippines and they may interfere cellular phones, etc. In this regard, we advise the consumers not to buy 900 MHz, 2.4 GHz & 5.8 GHz cordless phones. All the Panasonic cordless phones distributed by Panasonic Philippines comply with the regulations and are type-approved by NTC.

KEY FEATURES	KX-TC2000	KX-TC1210	KX-TC1220	KX-TC1230	KX-TCD400	KX-TCD500
Frequency Range	46 MHz - 49MHz	46 MHz - 49MHz	46 MHz - 49MHz	46 MHz - 49MHz	1.88 GHz-1.9 GHz	1.88 GHz-1.9 GHz
Caller-ID Compatible*		•	•	•		•
Caller-ID Memory*		50 stations	50 stations	50 stations		50 stations
Ringer Melody	1 melody	1 melody	1 melody	1 melody	14 melodies	15 melodies
Polyphonic Ring Tones						32 tones
Key Lock					•	•
Navigator Key		•	•	•	•	
Joystick						•
Large LCD with Blue Backlight						•
Lighted Handset Keypad	•	•	•	•		•
Phone Directory	11 stations	30 stations	30 stations	30 stations	20 stations	200 stations
Handset Locator (Paging)	•	•	•	•		•
Intercom w/ 2-way paging			•	•		
Speakerphone			•	•		•
Dual Keypads			•	•		
Digital Answering System				•		
Recording Time				up to 15 mins.		
Multi-Handset Capability (Optional)						up to 6 handsets

*Note: Caller ID Subscription required. Prices (SRP based) and features are subject to change without prior notice.

For dealer referrals, please call:
Panasonic Philippines (Sales Division of Matsushita Electric Philippines Corporation)
Tel. Nos. 899-4595 to 98 · Fax No. 897-4558 · Email address: system@mepco.panasonic.com.ph

Old stone, rice cake take center stage in tribe fest

By Desiree Caluza
Besao, Mt. Province

"*ADOGAN tako san bato ad Awaw* (Let us watch over the stone at Awaw)."

Every Sept. 30, members of the Agawa tribe in Besao, Mt. Province, brave the rugged terrain of the village to reunite with their relatives and celebrate the "linnapet (native rice cake) day."

When the sun's rays hit the protruding rock in Mt. Ambaon-bato on this day, tribe members gather and welcome the start of the planting season in this agricultural town of 9,875 residents (as of 2000).

DAYTOY TI AMIANAN

They celebrate while sharing the village's rice cake, the linnapet.

While waiting for the sun to rise, the Agawas gather in the dap-ay Awaw (a circular stone structure where community elders hold dialogues) in Sitio Gueday where their agricultural stone calendar sits.

For centuries, tribe members have recognized the stone calendar because it symbolizes the tribe's unity and marks the village's history as a community.

"When the modern day calendar was not yet introduced, our elders would just stand in the dap-ay and observe the sun. And when its rays hit the rock in Ambaon-bato, they would say, 'It is time to prepare the seed beds,'" said barangay councilor Bartolome Baldas.

Leon Lonogan, an Agawa tribe member and author of the book "The Sunset at Sunrise: The History of the Agawa Tribe," said that through the stone calendar, the tribe divides the year into 12 periods of the agricultural cycle, corresponding to each month of the Gregorian calendar.

The first month is called *kiling* (October), the time to sow grains on the seedbeds. *Tikang* (November) is the time to plow the rice fields and *ladew* (December), is the time to transplant the rice seedlings to inundated rice fields.

In *opok* (January), villagers clear the mountains; *bakakew* (February) is the beginning of the hunting season, while *kitkiti* (March) is the time to crush sugar canes.

Kiyang (April) is the season for people to fish in the river, and *pannaba* (May) is the time for people to search for beehives to harvest honey. Harvest time starts in *adawey* (June) and peaks in *luya* (July).

Tiway (August) is the peak of the rainy season and *adog* (September) is the time to watch the sun at Ambaon-bato.

Lonogan said after the modern calendar was introduced in the early 1900s, David Ganaden, an Agawa native, began recording the exact day of the rising of the sun at Ambaon-bato.

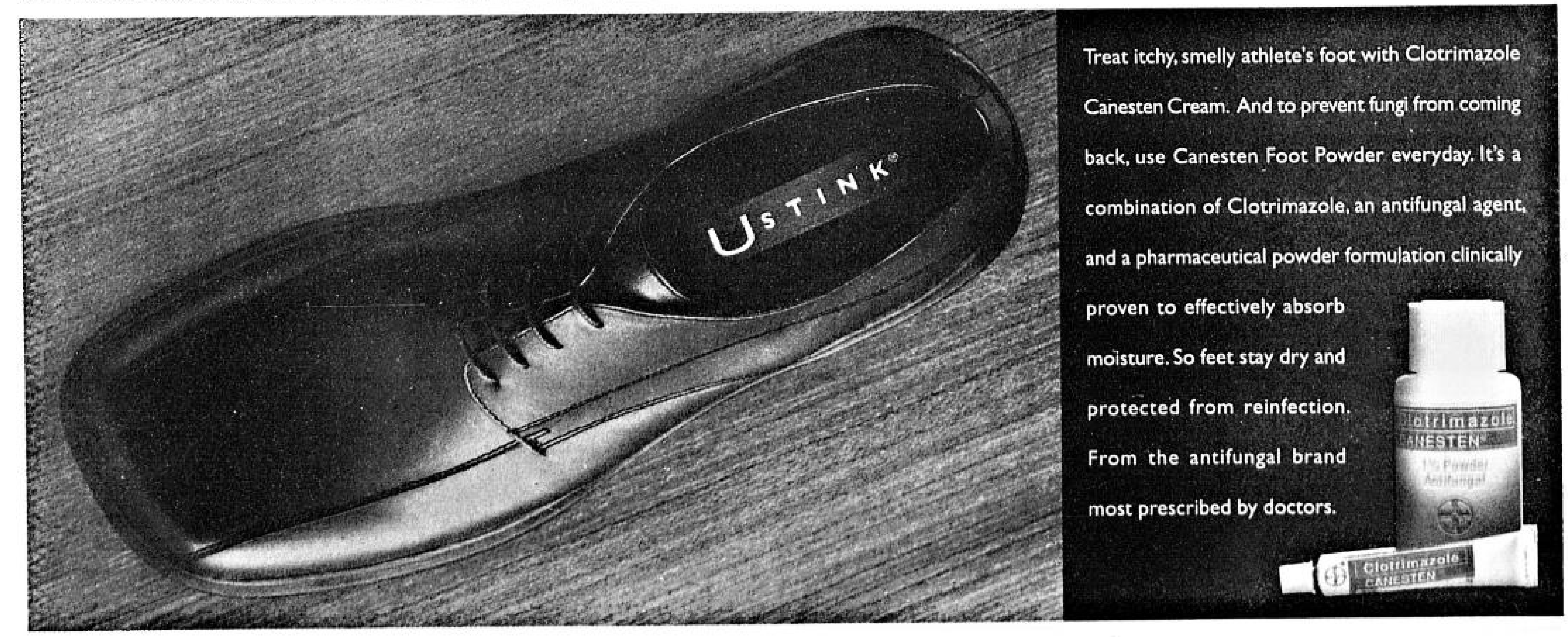
"After 10 years of careful observation, he found out that the event happens once a year, every Sept. 30 or Sept. 29 during leap years," Lonogan said.

After watching the sun rise on Sept. 30, residents immediately go home to prepare the linnapet that is shared with neighbors and relatives.

The linnapet recipe is handed down from generation to generation. The rice cake, whose traditional ingredients included water crickets, mudfish and eels, now uses sweetened peanuts.

Lonogan said through the sharing of the delicacy, Agawa tribe members display the spirit of oneness and sincerity in an atmosphere of tribal celebration.

AN AGAWA elder prepares the linnapet to signal the start of the planting season in Besao, Mt. Province. EV ESPIRITU



Treat itchy, smelly athlete's foot with Clotrimazole Canesten Cream. And to prevent fungi from coming back, use Canesten Foot Powder everyday. It's a combination of Clotrimazole, an antifungal agent, and a pharmaceutical powder formulation clinically proven to effectively absorb moisture. So feet stay dry and protected from reinfection. From the antifungal brand most prescribed by doctors.

Crude oil hits new all-time high, breaches $54/barrel

From page A1

fears that supplies from Brazil and Iraq might also be disrupted.

Reuters reported that crude for November delivery on the New York Mercantile Exchange surged 81 cents to a record $54.45 a barrel, marking a sixth successive day of all-time peaks. In London, Brent crude rallied 84 cents to $51.50 a barrel after crossing the $50 line for the first time on Monday.

Strongest demand in 24 yrs

Oil prices have leapt 66 percent this year as the strongest demand growth in 24 years caught producers by surprise, leaving a tightly stretched global supply system little leeway to deal with outages.

Current oil prices, however, are still $26 below the peak inflation-adjusted price reached in 1981. Underlying daily jitters is that excess available output is scant, with global production capacity only about one percent above the daily supply of 82 million barrels.

"It would be imprudent for the public to expect that all this would be resolved anytime soon. We have to adopt a mentality that we have to live with these prices," said John Vautrain, vice president of Texas-based energy consultants Purvin & Gertz in Singapore.

Nigeria

In Nigeria, a nationwide strike to protest higher fuel prices began Monday, shutting down most of the country's commercial capital, Lagos. The country's output of 2.5 million barrels a day has not been affected yet, but traders remained concerned.

Nigeria produces low-sulfur crude—currently in high demand—and analysts say the prospect of losing output there is particularly worrisome.

The four-day strike takes place just after a militia group and the government reached a tentative peace deal.

Previous efforts to boost output by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which already produces close to 30 million barrels daily, have involved crude with a high-sulfur content, which is less desirable for refiners.

People nervous

"People are nervous and starting to focus on winter weather," said Vautrain.

"Opec as a whole has seen production capacity dropping by nearly one-quarter in the past two decades," said Morgan Stanley chief Asia economist Andy Xie in his latest research report. "Until two years ago, Opec was sitting on a comfortable level of spare capacity," said Xie.

In Russia, a court ruled that Yukos must pay an additional $1.34 billion in fines and penalties as part of a $4.1-billion back tax claim for 2001, raising the company's total liabilities to about $7.5 billion. The company has warned that its production will suffer if the government continues its aggressive pursuit of back tax claims.

Gulf of Mexico

The market is also closely monitoring the slow recovery of production in the Gulf of Mexico, where 17 million barrels of oil production have been lost since Hurricane Ivan whipped through the region in the middle of September.

With the market already on edge, new fears entered into play on Tuesday.

Brazil's Oil Workers Federation recommended members vote for a five-day strike after state oil firm Petroleo Brasileiro SA failed to meet the union's wage demands. Dow Jones Newswires also reported that Iraq's oil exports were halted temporarily from its southern terminal last week due to insurgent attacks and the fires they started.

At rest

On Tuesday, Australian carrier Qantas said it would make a decision on a passenger surcharge to cope with rising jet fuel prices within 48 hours, while Japanese Finance Minister Sadakazu Tanigaki repeated warnings the global economic recovery was at risk over the continued surge.

"If the global economy grows by 3.6 percent as we currently forecast, the world may need an additional 2 million barrels of crude per day. We estimate that global supply will rise by about one and a half million barrels per day at best," Xie said. *Reports from AP and Reuters*

6,000 docs vow to stay, serve here for 3 years

From page A1

a climate that tends to accentuate the negative. It's a statement that physicians value their country over and above the enticement of greener pastures abroad," Dayrit said in a health forum at Annabel's restaurant in Quezon City.

"This is an expression of hope in the country's future, and the acknowledgement of the physicians' role in that future," he added.

The PCP signed the covenant during the forum, witnessed by the health secretary, his father Conrado Dayrit, who was a past president of the PCP, and officials of the Philippine Medical Association.

The PMA, which has 60,000 registered physicians, said that 20 percent, or one member out of five in its component societies, were taking up nursing so they could go abroad.

That's 12,000 doctors preparing to leave the country and work as nurses in the United States, United Kingdom, Middle East and other countries with a huge demand for health workers, PMA president Bu Castro said.

Not terminal but serious

The PMA estimated that about 3,000 physicians had left the country in the past few years. PCP data also showed that 2,000 doctors had taken up nursing in 2002 alone.

Dayrit said the brain drain in the medical profession was like a cancer, which was "not terminal, but certainly serious."

"We have to attack this malady in body, mind and spirit," Dayrit said.

Castro assailed the medical malpractice bills pending in the Senate, comparing it to a "sword hanging over the heads of doctors."

Enrollment down

"We want doctors to stay here, yet we attack them with these bills. How can we tell international clients to come here for the best in medical service when the Senate says our doctors give lousy service?" Castro said.

"It's counterproductive. One reason doctors leave is (because of) the hostile environment here," he said.

Enrollment in medical schools also dropped by 20 percent this year, the PMA said.

"There's really a health care crisis, especially in the rural areas. They are the most vulnerable and most likely to lose out on health care simply because we lack doctors," Castro said.

Filipino nurses earn about $4,000 a month in the United States and are usually given immigrant status along with their families.

On the other hand, doctors in government hospitals here earn about $400 a month.

Senate told 50 billionaires not paying correct taxes

From page A1

He told the committee chaired by Sen. Ralph Recto that the combined net worth of these people would reach P1.5 trillion.

Finance Secretary Juanita Amatong said that the figures cited by De Joya should be verified "because we are estimating on numbers which we don't know. It has to be verified so that the estimated tax take is tremendous."

De Joya refused to name names even when prompted by Senators Recto, Sergio Osmeña III and Juan Ponce Enrile.

"It's confidential ... privileged communication," said De Joya, "but they're willing to come out."

De Joya said FFCCI's data, although not exact, was taken from an internal survey of the chamber's members across the country.

"These people have been filing their income tax returns, and they paid taxes based on their income," said De Joya. But the declaration of their assets and liabilities was "the bone of contention."

De Joya came out with the information because the Department of Finance (DOF) wanted Congress to pass a tax amnesty law that seeks to impose a 3 percent rate on declared net worth.

"While the DOF wants 3 percent to be slapped on the net worth, (their) sentiment is that they are very willing to pay and declare their true net worth and pay one percent thereon," he said.

"But if the 3 percent is strictly adopted, it is very likely that they will still part with whatever is due at one percent and declare a net worth which is much less."

Applause

At a one-percent tax rate, the Chinese-Filipino businessmen could easily contribute P1.5 trillion to the nation's coffers, De Joya said. "This far exceeds (last week's) estimate of the DOF, which was P9 billion (as proceeds of the tax amnesty)," he said.

Recto lauded De Joya for being forthright, to which the latter replied: "This is the only country we have. We have to help this country grow."

His statement drew applause from the crowd attending the hearing.

Enrile then asked fiscal managers at the hearing whether they had heard of De Joya's claim.

"What have you done to really raise revenues from this sector. You can't ignore this fact. Are you saying here that you have not encountered these people over time?" he said.

Lilia Guillermo, deputy commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), said the agency was continuously conducting tax mapping activities.

"But you have revenue district officers, agents, you have all kinds of personnel who must know these tax experts. How come you have not been able to (go after them)?" Enrile snapped back.

Guillermo said that the agency was "more than willing to know who these people were."

List of who's who

Osmeña then said that the FFCCCI probably had the names of these businessmen on its list.

Recto told Amatong that the DOF had not presented any figures on first-time tax filers or on people who had not paid income taxes to the government and, thus, were expected to avail themselves of the tax amnesty.

Finance Undersecretary Emmanuel Bonoan candidly admitted early in the hearing that the DOF did not have the data on the first-time tax filers "because of the dearth of information."

Bonoan, however, said that the potential revenue from the tax amnesty was estimated at a low of P8 billion to a high of P13.86 billion. It would target those earning P100,000 and above, and would be implemented for five years.

Conservative estimate

The original high estimate was P20.46 billion. "After conferring among ourselves, we would like to err on a more conservative side," Bonoan said.

Recto noted that the proposed tax amnesty would be voluntary in nature and would exclude from coverage those facing cases of tax evasion.

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

REGULATORY ISSUANCE NO. 2004 - 03

To : MEMBER BANKS

Subject : FURTHER AMENDMENTS TO REGULATORY ISSUANCE No. 2002-01 (Amended Rules and Regulations on Advertisement of Membership with PDIC)

Pursuant to Sections 4(g) and 21(a), 21(f)(10) and 21(g) of Republic Act No. 3591 (otherwise known as The Charter of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation), as amended by Republic Act No. 9302, effective 12 August 2004, the PDIC Board of Directors under Resolution No. 2004-09-089 dated 23 September 2004 approved the promulgation of the following further amendments to Regulatory Issuance No. 2002-01 (Amended Rules and Regulations on Advertisement with PDIC).

SECTION 1. Item 4 of Regulatory Issuance (RI) No. 2002-01 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

> "At the site of the Automated Teller Machines (ATM), an insured bank shall either display the PDIC desktop or shall post the PDIC sticker, whichever is appropriate. ***As an alternative option to the PDIC desktop or sticker, the official PDIC sign may be shown electronically / digitally on the ATM screen. The official PDIC sign should appear on the screen preceding the transactional screen requesting for the customer's Personal Identification Number (PIN). A soft copy of the authorized design and size of the official PDIC sign for ATM screens can be directly requested from the PDIC Insurance Department or downloaded from the PDIC website. Instructions to download the official PDIC sign can be accessed through www.pdic.gov.ph/pdicatm.asp***"

SECTION 2. Item No. 5 of RI 2002-01 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"The ***PDIC desktop and sticker*** shall be prominently displayed at all times."

SECTION 3. All other related rules and/or regulations which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4. This Amended RI shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

(Sgd.) RICARDO M. TAN
President & Chief Executive Officer

13 October 2004

Advanced Security Solutions

100% Digital

AMAZINGLY AFFORDABLE PRICES

P201,000.00
Digital Video Recorder System
16 Camera Inputs
Real Time 480 fps, CD-RW
Remote monitoring and control

P36,600.00
Fingerprint Time & Attendance/
Access Control System
Stand-alone and Network ready
Includes communication controller

DSP Color Dome
CCD Camera w/ Lens
P5,300.00

P106,000.00
High Speed Dome Camera
w/ Day/Night Function
Includes housing, bracket
and power supply

DSP Color
CCD Camera
w/ Lens
P5,800.00

Dealers welcome

TLU Data Systems, Inc.
Advanced Security Solutions

Tel: (632) 632 0802
(632) 632 0806
Fax: (632) 632 0809

Printing Solutions made easy

Laser Printing easy
MagiColor
Color You Can Afford!
for only P 28,999!
(Limited Offer Only!)
KONICA MINOLTA LASER PRINTERS

Digital Copying easy
Dialta Series
Your All-In-One Copier!
Copy, Scan, Print and Fax instantly!
MINOLTA

Color Copying easy
MagiColor
Affordable Copying Solution for only
P 69,999!
KONICA MINOLTA LASER PRINTERS

Instant Printing easy
KS Series
Low-Cost High-Quality Printing Now!
RISO Super Digital Duplicators

Instant Publishing easy
RP Series
Computer to Print Publishing!
High quality prints on demand!
RISO Super Digital Duplicators

Instant Silkscreen easy
RISO SP400
Your Digital Silkscreen Printer!
RISO Super Digital Duplicators

Irresistible Trade-In Deals!

Free Laser Printers!

Widest Network Of Branches To Serve You!
Manila 747-6888

Angeles	(045) 887-2499	Gen. Santos	(083) 301-4567
Bacolod	(034) 435-0193	Iligan	(063) 221-3713
Baguio	(074) 446-5356	Iloilo	(033) 320-8063
Butuan	(085) 342-5321	Lipa	(043) 757-0235
Cagayan de Oro	(088) 857-4272	Naga	(054) 473-4936
Calamba	(049) 536-5460	Palawan	(0917) 823-9778
Cebu	(032) 232-4520	Tacloban	(053) 321-7611
Dagupan	(075) 515-3306	Tagbilaran	(038) 411-2396
Davao	(082) 224-0793	Tuguegarao	(0917) 873-9180
Dumaguete	(035) 225-4759	Zamboanga	(062) 991-2446

EXCLUSIVELY DISTRIBUTED BY:
COPYLANDIA
OFFICE SYSTEMS CORPORATION
Copylandia Corporate Center
718 Bumatay St. (near City Hall)
Mandaluyong City
www.copylandia.com

Soldiers told to keep calm, ignore provocateurs

By Cynthia D. Balana and Alcuin Papa

DON'T PLAY into the hands of provocateurs.

Congressmen issued this call to the country's soldiers yesterday following warnings from Defense Undersecretary Antonio Santos that some groups in the military might try to stir up young officers in the face of a corruption scandal rocking the Armed Forces.

House Majority Leader Prospero Nograles of Davao City said the inquiry into the alleged unexplained wealth of former military comptroller Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia might cause demoralization among soldiers but he said the investigation was "a painful way of cleansing the system at the AFP."

Lakas Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo of Pampanga asked the AFP top brass and field commanders to preserve the chain of command.

He said that most of the officers and men of the military were honest and professional and that "a few bad eggs" should not be allowed to demoralize the whole organization.

Testifying at a Senate hearing on Monday, Santos said it had come to his attention "that some groups are meeting regarding this (Garcia case) and they said that they'll make a big issue out of this and maybe use this as a vehicle to agitate the young officers."

Santos said he was "not at liberty to reveal the specifics" of the report he got but could do so in a closed session.

AFP Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Edilderto Adan said reports of restiveness in the military were unfounded.

Vested interests

"There is no basis (for that report). There is no such thing," Adan told reporters.

He said all commanders had been given instructions to talk to their men "not to allow themselves to be used by some elements, individuals or groups with vested interests to destroy the Armed Forces."

"The whole of the Armed Forces must not be ... affected by these (controversies)," Adan said.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the investigation of cases of graft in the Armed Forces should lift the low morale of soldiers and end rumors of destabilization.

"We do not expect destabilization attempts but widespread support from within the military establishment," Bunye said, adding that reform would prevail over adventurism.

Corruptors to be punished

"The public and the soldiery can be assured that corruptors at any level of the command will be brought to justice," Bunye said.

Nograles said the military should welcome the investigation of Garcia.

"There is nothing personal here," he said. "Nobody, no sector is exempt from investigations of wrongdoings."

Rep. Antonio Cerilles of Zamboanga del Sur said the intelligence community should monitor reports of any agitation within the military.

He warned that, unless the issue of corruption in the military was resolved, the Armed Forces would always be a fertile ground for military adventurism.

Lakas Rep. Prospero Pichay of Surigao del Sur, co-chair of the Commission on Appointments, said the confirmation of top Cabinet and military officials would face rough sailing if AFP leaders did not cooperate in the corruption probe.

Rebels urge protests

He said the CA would strictly establish the moral soundness of the successor of outgoing AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya to make sure that he would pursue reforms.

"A dirty chief of staff will just help perpetuate the corruption prevalent in the military," Pichay stressed.

Stepping into the row, the Communist Party of the Philippines called on "the enemy's" junior officers and rank-and-file employees to launch protests against high-level corruption in the military.

CPP spokesperson Gregorio Rosal said in a statement: "The protest actions that AFP soldiers and officials can carry out are street protest actions, collective disobedience of orders by corrupt officials, prayer rallies and other unarmed and armed actions." *With reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana and Norman Bordadora*

US asks RP: Hold Garcia, confiscate his green card

From page A1

bassy, said in his letter to the BI.

"I would like to request your office to place the above mentioned person on your Stop List," Jaspal also said.

An official at the Department of Foreign Affairs said the US call for the Philippines to bar Garcia from traveling out of the country was out of bounds.

"The United States cannot tell the Philippines how to deal with its citizens in the same way that we cannot dictate on the United States what to do with its citizens," said the official, who asked for anonymity.

BI public information officer Raymond Salting said the US Embassy letter was "a friendly request."

Envoy admits info sharing

US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone said his government had been sharing information about Garcia with the Philippines.

"Our law enforcers and investigators share information back and forth. What we're doing, both sides, is bringing the full force of the law on them in cases like this of allegations of violations of laws in your country," Ricciardone told reporters at the DFA, where he attended the launch of three US-funded projects to combat human trafficking and child prostitution.

The ambassador said the US government "was gratified" by the steps taken by the Philippines to investigate Garcia, whose son, Ian Carl, was held at the San Francisco, California, airport last December after he failed to declare $100,000 in his possession.

"It's clear the President herself is resolute in calling for a full investigation and vigorous prosecution, and we're standing together with the Philippines," Ricciardone said.

US Embassy letter

In his letter to the BI, Jaspal said that "Mr. Carlos Flores Garcia is holding a permanent resident card bearing number A-029430514."

"Mr. Garcia never maintained a residency in the United States. Thus, he is not entitled to the said card. Mr Garcia has been living and working in the Armed Forces of the Philippines for most of his adult life."

The letter, excerpts of which were released by the BI, added: "Mr. Garcia is not a permanent resident of the United States and should not be allowed to travel on his (green card). I would request that your office may lift this card and forward to the United States Department of Homeland Security Office in the US Embassy, Manila."

The letter did not say how Garcia acquired the green card in the first place.

Close cooperation

Ricciardone did not specify what information Washington had shared with Manila in connection with Garcia's case.

"But I'm glad to point out that the United States and the Philippines cooperate very closely, in cases like this where [there are] allegations of transgression of our laws in addition to yours," he said.

Ricciardone said he was not aware if Garcia had been indicted in the United States on allegations that he was keeping fat bank accounts there.

"I haven't heard of any indictments," he said.

Retired Navy Commodore Rex Robles had said that Garcia, two other military generals and two Cabinet-level officials were being investigated by US authorities in connection with their alleged large bank accounts in the United States.

Specific to Garcia case

Karen Kelley, US Embassy press attaché, said that her government had not opened any inquiry and was leaving it up to the Philippines to investigate the allegations against Garcia.

"You know this is in the Philippines. The Ombudsman is investigating. My perception is that this is a thoroughly Philippine matter," she said. "We're here in the Philippines. He's here in the Philippines."

Kelley said that she would try to find out from US customs authorities what specific procedure Garcia's son had violated when he tried to bring in money to the United States.

"I'm sure that there are some regulations in the books governing the importation of sums of money. But I don't know what it is," she said. "I don't know what happened to the case, to the money."

Asked if the United States was conducting a separate investigation of other military generals and government officials allegedly holding assets in US banks, Kelley said: "As far as I know the information-sharing was specific to this case."

Pressure from US?

Opposition Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile said it was possible the US government provided information against Garcia and other generals as a form of pressure on the Arroyo administration owing to its decision to pull out the Filipino contingent from Iraq.

"You might not know it for a fact but anyone can speculate on these things," he said.

"It happened before during the time of (former President Ferdinand) Marcos. They exposed all his assets in the United States through the Mercury News and some other newspapers in America," said Enrile, who was the late strongman's defense minister.

"It's not farfetched that these things will happen again," Enrile said.

He said "yes" when asked whether the dossier provided by the Americans against Garcia had something to do with the strained RP-US relations.

"Maybe you smell it right," he said.

A ranking administration senator also made a similar assessment.

Customs, BIR officials

The senator, who asked not to be named, said in an interview that the country had actually asked the United States to provide data on the dollar deposits and other properties in the United States of officials of the Philippine Bureau of Customs and the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

"We were looking for information against these customs and revenue officials, but instead they gave us a dossier on military generals," said the senator.

Goods on the generals

"They already had the goods (on the generals)," said the senator, who found it strange that the probe against customs and revenue officials had shifted to the military.

"Maybe because the US is concerned about terrorism," he said. *With a report from Michael Lim Ubac*

General confined at UST hospital . . .

From page A1

cion of corruption, is confined at the University of Santo Tomas Hospital for "obstructive sleep apnea." And he is apparently being treated like a king.

The two-star general with a basic salary of roughly P36,000 a month was admitted Sunday morning to the Del Rosario Ward, "the best that the hospital can offer," a hospital official told the INQUIRER yesterday.

This "rich man's ward" on the hospital's fifth floor has extravagant rooms, according to a hospital employee. The Garden Suite, for example, even has a fountain in the center of the living room; another comes with a balcony.

It is the choice ward of ambassadors, company executives, show biz personalities, educators and other moneyed patients, the employee said.

The reported daily tab for a room in the Del Rosario Ward is between P2,000 and P7,000.

"Well, it's relatively cheap for Garcia, if it's true that he has all that money," said a hospital staff member. "It's also relatively cheap compared to other luxury rooms of other hospitals."

Garcia is the subject of an inquiry at the House of Representatives as well as a US investigation for allegedly maintaining a $1.42-million bank account in the United States, on top of several pieces of property here and abroad. *(See banner story.)*

Because of his supposed ailment, he did not show up at the Monday hearing of the House committee on defense chaired by Rep. Roilo Golez (Lakas, Parañaque).

The inquiry is in aid of legislation to prevent large-scale corruption in the AFP.

According to a hospital source who requested anonymity, Garcia "stopped breathing for long periods during sleep because something was obstructing his airway."

"That makes him tired and weak when he's awake," the source said.

Off-limits

Garcia is in the Del Rosario Ward's Room 517, which is about 40 square meters in size and has among its amenities a receiving area and a kitchen, a hospital employee said. The glass window overlooks the parking area.

But the room is off-limits to all but family members, close friends and attending physicians, the source said.

"Even the hospital staff members are careful not to stray near his corridor unless there's official business," the source said.

Doctors, nurses and other hospital employees also make sure they talk in hushed tones about their controversial patient.

"We're not supposed to know that he's the guy in the headlines," an employee said.

VISITING HOURS
5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.
TWO VISITORS ONLY
AT A TIME
CHILDREN BELOW 10
NOT ALLOWED

RICH, VIP patients the likes of Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia are confined in the Del Rosario Ward of the University of Sto. Tomas Hospital, which is now under heavy guard. The suites reportedly come with a kitchen, living room, balcony and a fountain. RAFFY LERMA

Finally, AFP sets Garcia court-martial

From page A1

conduct prejudicial to the service against Garcia because of his questionable Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth (SALN).

Adan said the charges filed in a military court would include violations of Article of War 96 for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and Article of War 95 for fraud against the government.

"It appears that Maj. Gen. Garcia failed to declare his true assets in his annual Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth. The court-martial charges against (him) will not constitute double jeopardy since the Articles of War is provided by a special law," Adan said at a news conference.

Garcia has already been suspended without pay for six months while under investigation by government prosecutors.

The Garcia case, which came to light when his sons were caught trying to bring $100,000 into the United States last December, is indicative of widespread corruption in the military that stretches back to the days of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, according to analysts.

Corruption was the main gripe of about 300 angry young Army officers who took over a high-rise apartment building in Makati City, the country's financial district, in July 2003.

Foot-dragging

They accused the military hierarchy of sanctioning the sale of weapons to rebel groups and complained there was not enough money for basic equipment such as decent boots for troops.

Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile decried the foot-dragging by the military in the Garcia case.

Last week, Enrile, a former defense minister, had called on AFP officials to immediately confine Garcia to quarters and to initiate court-martial proceedings against him.

"This is my personal assessment and personal impression, they're washing their hands. They do not want to touch this hot potato," Enrile told reporters.

Clearly, he said, AFP officials were passing to the Office of the Ombudsman the handling of the graft case against Garcia. "They're passing the buck."

Enrile took the AFP to task for relying on the memorandum of agreement (MOA) which was signed by the AFP, Office of the Ombudsman and Commission on Audit in January, delegating to the Office of the Ombudsman the authority to handle graft cases of military officials.

No jurisdiction

It was Vice Adm. Ariston de los Reyes, AFP vice chief of staff, who revealed to the Senate the other day that the military could not take over jurisdiction of the Garcia case because of the MOA.

Under the Articles of War, the AFP can investigate its officers and soldiers for wrongdoing.

"Who are they to suspend the laws by a mere MOA?" Enrile said. "Who is going to enforce the law?"

The senator said that if military officials did not want to handle Garcia's case, then they should quit. "There are others who can handle the case," Enrile said.

He reiterated his call to President Macapagal-Arroyo to create an independent commission "to look deeply into this mess and to spare the nation the agony it's going through."

Evidence from US

Adan explained why it was taking the AFP leadership time to file court-martial charges against Garcia.

He said the military did not have any evidence until US authorities submitted to local authorities proof of Garcia's alleged "illegitimate wealth."

"As early as February, the AFP did not have evidence to warrant prosecution because evidence was scarce," he said.

Adan said the evidence "came from US authorities which was how it came to be known that his assets in America were not declared here. That is why there is an offense. As of now, the specific charges will be studied by our Judge Advocate General."

In February, the AFP investigated Garcia after one of his sons was held at the San Francisco airport last December for trying to bring in $100,000 into the United States. However, the probe was stopped due to "lack of sufficient evidence" and the AFP transferred Garcia from comptrollership, which handles the military's finances, to plans and programs.

Suspended in September

But last September when the Office of the Ombudsman requested information on Garcia in preparation for the filing of charges for gross dishonesty and grave misconduct against him, it was discovered that he did not declare all his assets in his SALN.

On orders of the Office of the Ombudsman, Garcia was suspended by the AFP on Sept. 28.

The AFP Judge Advocate General's Office is due to start its pre-trial investigation of the Garcia case soon, according to Adan. However, he could not give a timetable for the court-martial of Garcia.

"The Judge Advocate General will be coming out with a plan here and recommend to the chief of staff the legal undertakings to be done," he said.

To retire on Nov. 18

Garcia, however, is set to retire on Nov. 18 when he reaches the mandatory retirement age of 56. Once he retires, Garcia can be considered to be outside the military's jurisdiction.

Also, the maximum penalty for violations of the Articles of War is dishonorable dismissal from the service, which could be rendered moot because of his retirement.

In addition, a dishonorable dismissal means Garcia will not be getting any of his benefits.

Adan said the AFP was still studying the legal ramifications of Garcia's retirement on his impending court-martial.

"By Nov. 18, under the law, he is a retired officer. So we are seeking legal opinions on this, on what will be his status after that because by law he is already a civilian.

"By law, he may not be placed under military control. However, there are differing opinions on this. So we will wait for that legal study," he said.

Transfer to military hospital

To ensure that Garcia will attend court-martial proceedings, De los Reyes has issued an order that Garcia be "restricted to quarters," Adan said.

The order does not allow Garcia to leave his quarters inside Camp Aguinaldo, the AFP headquarters in Quezon City, "without the permission from the chief of staff but allows him to have full access to his lawyers."

When reporters pointed out that Garcia was no longer at his quarters inside the camp, Adan said the general was confined at the UST Hospital in Manila for high blood pressure and respiratory problems.

Nonetheless, Adan said Garcia would be placed under guard by the AFP or he could be transferred to a military hospital.

"The important point here is that he (Garcia) will be placed under control so that he can be made available in the investigation as well as for his own safety and security," Adan said.

Shabu lab raided in Parañaque

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo inspects the alleged illegal drugs laboratory in Multinational Village in Parañaque City. ROGER MARGALLO

By Nancy C. Carvajal

IMPORTED chemicals and other raw materials worth P10 million used in the manufacture of shabu were seized by police at an illegal drugs laboratory inside a plush Parañaque subdivision yesterday morning.

Found inside the three-story house inside Multinational Village were 13 kilos of ephedrine, 46 boxes of thionyl chloride, and 634 boxes of various solvents. Several boxes of round bottom flasks, suction flasks, funnels and other glassware used in making shabu were also discovered at the ground floor, apart from vacuum pumps, freezers, a weighing scale and a dryer.

A Chinese national, Li Zhong Hong, alias James Nian, was arrested by police on his way out of the house on board a blue Toyota Revo. A warrant of arrest was handed to the suspect after he was identified by an undercover agent as one of at least three men who allegedly operated the laboratory. The other suspects were not around when the raid took place.

The house, sitting on 1,800 square meters of choice real estate, was the third shabu laboratory in the subdivision, according to Police Senior Supt. Rolando Mabutas, head of the raiding team under the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency. The PDEA had conducted raids in two different houses inside the subdivision in May and December last year. It was the the biggest shabu facility found in the city, and the sixth to have been uncovered in Parañaque by anti-illegal drugs teams, according to police chief Supt. Ronald Estilles. Nian had reportedly signed a one-year lease with the owner of the house, Joseph Chan. A representative of Chan, however, said the owner had no knowledge of his tenant's business.

A check with the homeowner's association office revealed that Nian had acquired two village stickers found on two vehicles allegedly used by the suspects. Nian, however, said he was only paid to watch over the chemicals and other materials. But a PDEA operative said receipts found inside the house showed that Nian had signed for these and had also provided shabu samples to prospective buyers.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, who had visited the site with Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes, thanked residents for their support in the campaign against illegal drugs. Alarmed about the discovery of yet another shabu laboratory in his city, Parañaque Mayor Florencio Bernabe said he would soon call a meeting with presidents of homeowners' associations to discuss ways to help erase Parañaque's growing notoriety as a shabu haven.

ICOPE & INSTITUTE FOR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES & PROGRAMS FOR EMPOWERMENT
LEARN THE SKILLS YOU NEED !
HOMEBASED TRAVEL BUSINESS
LEGAL SET-UP/RESERVATIONS & TICKETING/TOUR PACKAGING/PASSPORT & VISA/ TRAVEL ACCOUNTING
MICROLENDING BUSINESS
PRE-SCHOOL OPERATIONS
TAHO-TOKWA
MEAT PROCESSING
620-6801/620-6717/(0917)825-0030
For Other Home Business Courses,visit us at www.i-cope.com

Job hunters, not robbers?

By Christine O. Avendano

A RUBOUT not a shootout.

This was the claim of Damian Egano Cea III yesterday, in answer to an account by National Bureau of Investigation agents who said they shot seven alleged robbers along the South Luzon Expressway in Laguna on Oct.1 because the suspects had engaged them in a shootout.

The seven, in fact, were not robbers but job hunters like him, Cea said.

Cea surfaced yesterday to say that he had sought the help of Sen. Jinggoy Estrada because he knew what really happened in the NBI operation. Estrada presented Cea to reporters at a press conference, and later turned him over to Col. Ricardo Region 4, deputy director for Region 4-A.

Estrada said PNP chief Director General Edgar Aglipay had promised to provide protection for Cea since he claimed he had received death threats from Amabello Abello Gonzalez, his wife's cousin. Gonzalez had told him he was an NBI informant, Cea added.

A certain Tetet had seen him last Sept. 30 with a job offer from GemCor, a noodles factory in Cavite, he added.

Tetet had fetched him the following day, and seven other men—five of whom were his friends—joined them later.

They all then set out to go to GemCor, but they were told to get off at Carmona, Cavite, to wait for some people.

Cea said that they were asked to board a yellow Ford Fiera with two other men, including a friend he identified as "Cesar."

Their next destination was Walter Mart in Calamba where they waited for Gonzalez who told them that they would go to the house of a Chinese national, also in Calamba.

After a series of stops, Cea said they found themselves in the expressway where he heard Gonzalez call someone.

Their vehicles later took separate ways. Cea said he proceeded to San Pedro, Laguna, with Gonzalez and Cesar.

When he got home, Cea said he was told about the shootout between NBI agents and his companions.

The GTI Sea Scooter is here!
The single-speed version of the Supercharged VS.
Intro price P28,900 only!
• For snorkelling and diving
• Rated #1 by DIVE Magazine and DSAT
• Tested to 115ft. at 4 km/hr.
• 1.5 hrs. battery life (rechargeable)
SRP P37,900
Other available models: Dolphin - SRP: P12,900
Standard DPV - SRP: P19,900
Special buddy deals for 2 or more units!
SEA•DOO Sea Scooters
Lightweight, User-friendly, Affordable
BOATING WORLD, INC.
9635 Kamagong St., San Antonio Village, Makati City Tel nos: 897-8771 • 890-4272
SEA•DOO authorized dealers

PRO-GYM
#1 IN FITNESS EQUIPMENT
CLUB EDITION 2nd GENERATION
ENGINEERED AND DESIGNED FOR HEALTH CLUBS, COMPANY GYMS, CONDOMINIUMS, RESORTS, HOTELS & SCHOOLS AT FACTORY DIRECT PRICES.
SELECTORIZED & PLATE LOADING
CALL US FOR A CATALOGUE, PRICE LIST OR FOR CONSULTATION IN PLANNING YOUR GYM.
HOME GYMS
COMPACT GYM P25,500.
MULTI-WORKOUT MACHINE
Health Club quality machine with over 30 uses to strengthen, condition and tone all muscle groups to include the CHEST, ARMS, SHOULDERS, BACK, LEGS, THIGH & BUTTOCKS.
5 YR. LTD. WARRANTY
MAXI BENCH
P7,500. (W/O Attachments)
BEST SELLER
ARM CURL
LAT PULLDOWN
The all-adjustable bench. FLAT, INCLINE, DECLINE & UPRIGHT. Also features Leg Curl/Extension & Dipping Bar. 2" Sq. Steel. Optional Attachments sold separately.
ARM CURL...P950. LAT PULLDOWN...P1,950.
MEGA BENCH 1.5" Sq. Steel P4,250.(W/O Arm Curl)
P4,950. W/ Arm Curl
TRAINING BENCH 1" Round Tube P2,950.
DUMBBELL SET (25 lbs.) 8 plates P945.
BARBELL SET (50lbs.) 6 plates P1,695.
FREE: WEIGHT TRAINING BOOKLET, EXERCISE CHART and FLEXIBILITY CHART on all purchases. This valuable reference introduces you step by step to the world of Fitness and Bodybuilding.
CARDIO
FLIP TRAXX P7,950.
MAGNETIC BIKE P7,950.
MAXI TRAXX P10,900.
CALL US FOR LEAFLETS ON COMPACT GYMS, BENCHES OR CARDIOS.
TO ORDER, CALL: 742-18-08 741-59-74 743-13-49 FAX: 742-61-59 progym@itextron.com
SEPTEM, INC. 58 HALCON ST. QUEZON CITY
FACTORY OUTLET
PLS. ADD MIN. OF P200. FOR DELIVERY & HANDLING W/IN M. MANILA

No charges filed vs Sai owners

By Tarra V. Quismundo

AFTER Manila Mayor Lito Atienza promised to prosecute "all those found responsible for the faulty design and construction" of the building that fell in Tondo, the local government appears to have softened up on the owners and private individuals in the case.

Secretary to the Mayor Emmanuel Sison said it would leave it to the private individuals involved in the construction of ill-fated Sai Building to file charges against one another.

"It's up to them to charge each other. Right now, our concern is our own people," said Sison, when asked if the city would file administrative charges against the owner, engineers, designers and contractors of Sai Building.

The eight-story residential and commercial building collapsed in the afternoon of July 23, five years after it was constructed on the corner of Juan Luna and Padre Rada Streets.

While nobody was hurt in the incident, Atienza said "all those found responsible for the faulty design and construction will be charged criminally," including private individuals and city officials.

Sison and the City Legal Office have filed administrative charges against Rolito Simon, Lirma Fajardo, Wilson Habaña and Edgardo Soriano, head of the Manila Building Office Enforcement Division, for neglect of duty.

A special committee that investigated the collapse found these officials remiss in their duties as they approved building plans and issued permits for the construction and use of Sai Building.

Muslim leader says mosques bring peace

By Leila B. Salaverria

MOSQUES foster peace, a Muslim leader in Manila said yesterday, trying to allay fears of San Juan residents over the building of an Islamic prayer area at the Greenhills Shopping Center.

Datu Amerol Gulam Ambiong, chair of the Metro Manila Muslim Peace and Order Coordinating Council, also criticized the adverse reaction from the rich residents as damaging to the image of Muslims.

The Federation of Greenhills Association of San Juan are opposing the construction for economic reasons, saying in a letter that places where mosques are built deteriorate and bring property prices down.

Construction hailed

At the same time, Ambiong hailed the decision of the shopping center management and the San Juan government to proceed with the prayer room's construction despite the opposition to it.

"People who go to mosques want peace. Muslims who worship will not do anything bad because they are more likely to follow the teachings of their faith," he told the INQUIRER yesterday.

He said those who are opposed to the construction of the prayer room—or *mussalah*, as the shopping center management calls it—may be construed as antipeace. The Muslim leader added that it was unfair for the residents to blame the deterioration or the bad peace and order situation of an area to Muslims.

"When Catholic churches are constructed in areas where a lot of Muslims live, we do not complain about it because we are educated," he said.

Ambiong also said freedom of religion would be curtailed if the prayer room's construction is halted.

Most of the merchants at the Greenhills Shopping Center are Muslim and have to pray five times a day as part of their faith.

Nothing wrong

Meanwhile, Francisco Joaquin Jr., former official of the North Greenhills homeowners association, said he talked to several residents who strongly feel that there was nothing wrong with providing the Muslim traders with a prayer room.

"We plan to meet either (Tuesday night) or (Wednesday night) to discuss this issue. We want to ask for a general meeting so we could voice our concerns," he told the INQUIRER.

Joaquin said the letter of the Greenhills Association of San Juan most probably offended Muslims all over Metro Manila.

"The residents I have talked to feel there might be a retaliation from (offended Muslims). They feel that the letter is too harsh," he said. "Because of their belligerence, they (who are opposing the mosque) are putting other residents in danger."

"The association can speak for us on other matters, but not on our religious views," he said.

United Auctioneers, Inc.
TRUCKS, VANS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT
3 DAY PUBLIC AUCTION
INSPECTION & REGISTRATION START ON SUNDAY OCT. 17, 2004
OCTOBER 21, 22, & 23, 2004
(THURSDAY FRIDAY & SATURDAY)
Sale starts at 8:30 AM SHARP!
Catch The Best At
SUBIC BAY
INSPECTION DATES: OCTOBER 17, 18, 19 & 20, 2004 (SUNDAY TO WEDNESDAY)
REGISTRATION DATES: OCTOBER 17 TO 23, 2004 (SUNDAY TO SATURDAY)
CATERPILLAR D5H 20 BULLDOZERS
KOMATSU FD50 5TONS FORKLIFT
40 EXCAVATORS SUMITOMO S260 W/BREAKER
10 CRANES KATO 16TON CRAWLER TELESCOPIC CRANE
25 TANKERS ISUZU 8W TANKER
40 TRUCK CRANES ISUZU 10W CARGO W/2.9 TON CRANE
130 ALUM VANS ISUZU FORWARD ALUMINUM VAN
160 DUMP TRUCKS FUSO CANTER DUMP TRUCK
ALSO AVAILABLE: LOCALLY ACQUIRED VEHICLE
LAND ROVER DISCOVERY
MITSUBISHI DELICA
LOCATION MAP
SUBIC
BLDG. 1455 ARGONAUT HIGHWAY, SUBIC BAY FREEPORT, PHILIPPINES
TEL NOS : (047) 252-1129 252-1155 to 58
FAX NO : (047) 252-5569
MANILA TEL NOS : (02) 9297868 • 9205501 • 426-3908 • 453-7470 • CEL NO. 09178088824
FAX NO : (02) 929-0260 E-MAIL: info@uauctioneers.com WEBSITE : www.uauctioneers.com

6/42 Luzon/Vis-Min	EZ2	SUERTRES	SIX DIGIT
9 12 13 19 20 26	28 25	2 2 0	7 9 3 4 8 6
			(In exact order)

Text us your feedback: Inquirer met name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Texting service targets erring motorists

By Margaux C. Ortiz

A MERE press of a key would soon keep Metro Manila's recidivist drivers in check.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) yesterday announced that by next month, a new system would enable traffic enforcers to verify an erring motorist's records through the cellular phone.

Ramon Santiago, MMDA Road Rules Enforcement System chief, said the database and enforcement system linkup between the MMDA, Land Transportation Office and Land Transportation and Franchise Regulatory Board had paved the way for the Law Enforcement Verification System (LEVS).

With LEVS, enforcers will be able to verify if a motorist has failed to redeem a Metropolitan Traffic Ticket (MTT) or has ignored a summons under the No Contact Traffic Apprehension (NCTA) scheme.

"The new system would ensure a more efficient collection of fines from motorists," Santiago said in an interview.

He also said it would be easier for the agency to track down records of recidivist drivers through the database linkup.

Under the new system, enforcers would key in the license and plate number of an erring driver and send the information to the agency.

Santiago said the licenses of motorists who refused to pay previous fines for the MTT would immediately be confiscated.

He added that the motorist's vehicle would be impounded immediately upon discovery of his outstanding accounts under the NCTA.

Santiago said the MMDA would be paying P5 per transaction to the LTO database provider.

Vendors back in Baclaran

By Margaux C. Ortiz

WITH sidewalk vendors reclaiming the streets of Baclaran months after the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) stopped clearing operations, Chair Bayani Fernando said all their efforts to clear the area "have gone to waste."

"It's so sad because we left the area in such a good condition," Fernando said in an interview. "We wanted it to become a model for every busy area in Metro Manila."

The MMDA gave the responsibility of sidewalk clearing back to the local government units last February because of apparent lack of support from local officials.

A few months after the elections, the MMDA reorganized its sidewalk clearing operations team upon the request of local chief executives who asked for help in ridding their streets of illegal vendors.

Fernando said that aside from sidewalk vendors occupying G.G. Cruz and Redemptorist Road, drivers and operators of public utility vehicles also complained that members of a local syndicate have been extorting P140 per trip from them.

Tanong ng Bayan

InqTV ABC Tuwing Huwebes, 10:30pm

I-text ang inyong "fearless view" sa 2910. Pipiliin namin ang pinakamagaling na sagot. Ang premyo linggo-linggo: **Isang 21" color TV set!**

I-type: INQTV <ang inyong sagot>, <buong pangalan>, <siyudad o probinsiya>, tapos ipadala sa 2910. Cut-off time: WEDNESDAY, 6 PM. Winner will be identified during the InqTV program: Thursday, 10:30pm, on ABC.

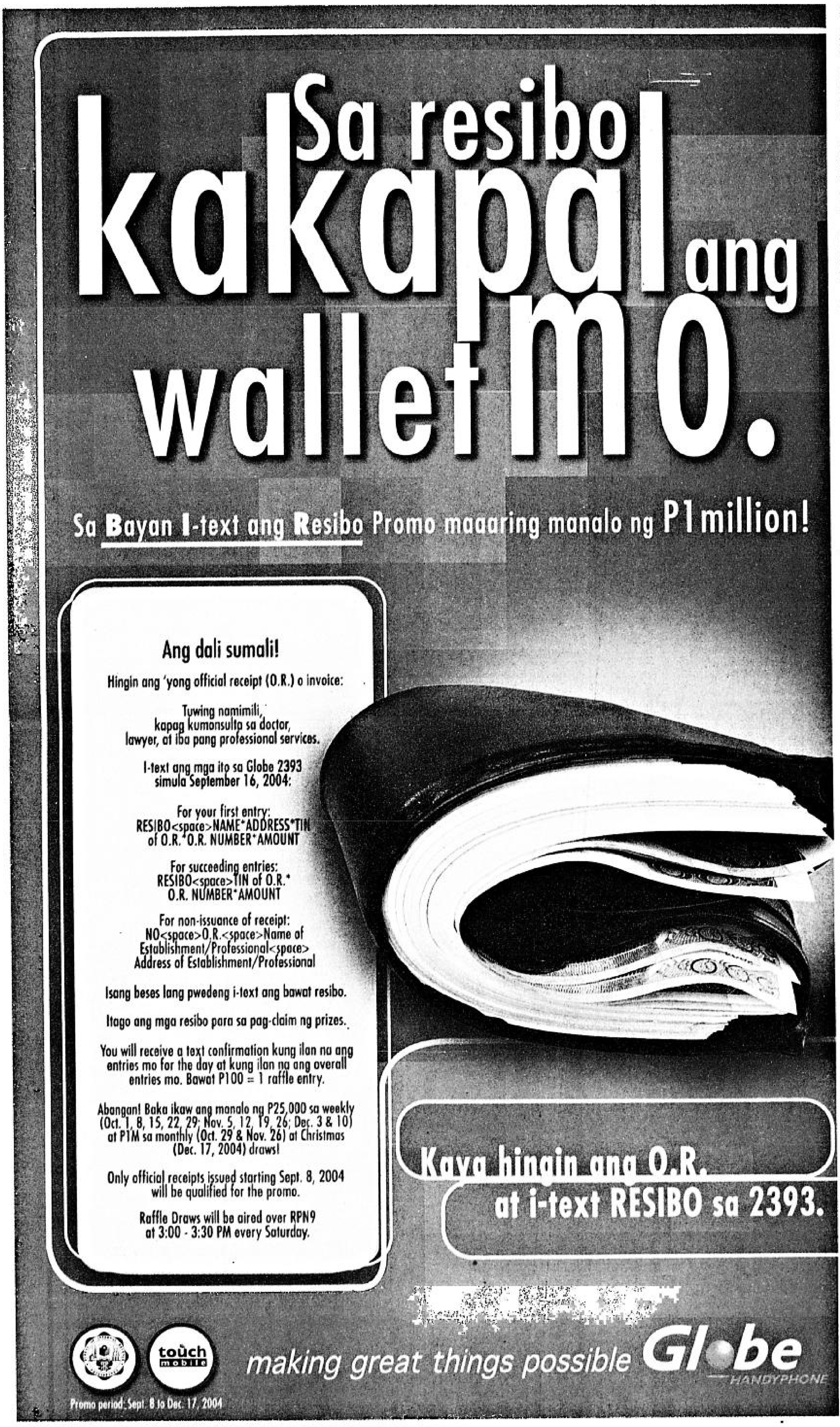
text 2910

Winston sa GSIS, atbp. Oras na bang bumaba?

Narito ang ilan sa mga sagot ninyo. Text na!

"hindi dpat kc lhat ng btikos n humihingi ng pagpptalsik nya ay pkn ng mga interes n nwlan n ng kurakot dhil s reporm ipin2pad nya"
Manuel Agdamag, Parañaque

"imahe ng liderato di n mganda,ahensya bugbog na sa kontrobersya,kya garcia mgsakripisyo na."
Emmanuel Hermoso, Cavite.



Sa resibo kakapal ang wallet mo.

Sa Bayan I-text ang Resibo Promo maaaring manalo ng P1 million!

Ang dali sumali!

Hingin ang 'yong official receipt (O.R.) o invoice:

Tuwing namimili,
kapag kumonsulta sa doctor,
lawyer, at iba pang professional services.

I-text ang mga ito sa Globe 2393
simula September 16, 2004:

For your first entry:
RESIBO<space>NAME*ADDRESS*TIN of O.R.*O.R. NUMBER*AMOUNT

For succeeding entries:
RESIBO<space>TIN of O.R.*O.R. NUMBER*AMOUNT

For non-issuance of receipt:
NO<space>O.R.<space>Name of Establishment/Professional<space>Address of Establishment/Professional

Isang beses lang pwedeng i-text ang bawat resibo.

Itago ang mga resibo para sa pag-claim ng prizes.

You will receive a text confirmation kung ilan na ang entries mo for the day at kung ilan na ang overall entries mo. Bawat P100 = 1 raffle entry.

Abangan! Baka ikaw ang manalo ng P25,000 sa weekly (Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26; Dec. 3 & 10) at P1M sa monthly (Oct. 29 & Nov. 26) at Christmas (Dec. 17, 2004) draws!

Only official receipts issued starting Sept. 8, 2004 will be qualified for the promo.

Raffle Draws will be aired over RPN9 at 3:00 - 3:30 PM every Saturday.

Kaya hingin ang O.R. at i-text RESIBO sa 2393.

touch mobile

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

Promo period: Sept. 8 to Dec. 17, 2004

KIA "The Better Alternative"

SORENTO 4x4 — "CAR OF THE YEAR 2004" THE 4X4 MAGAZINE - UK

SEDONA — ★★★★★ RATING U.S. NATIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY ASSOCIATION

picanto — ELIMINATES GAS PAINS! The True People's Car Is Back!

PREGIO GS neo — "SUPER DELUXE FAMILY VAN" 12 Seater · VCD Player with LCD Monitor Keyless Entry with Alarm · Extended Bumper

KC 2700 — "MORE SPACE, MORE POWER" Panoramic · Aluminum Van · Dropside

KIA MANDALUYONG
#79 EDSA Mandaluyong City
Tels.: 531-4631 to 33; 531-1949; 531-4424 • Fax: 531-4380

KIA MAKATI
La Fuerza Plaza
2241 Pasong Tamo St., Makati City
Tels.: 817-8416; 817-8417; 817-8406
Telefax: 817-8421

KIA LAS PIÑAS
(In front of SM Southmall)
Tels.: 801-7656; 801-7668; 802-1024; 806-2235 • Telefax: 806-2230

SPORTS

Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

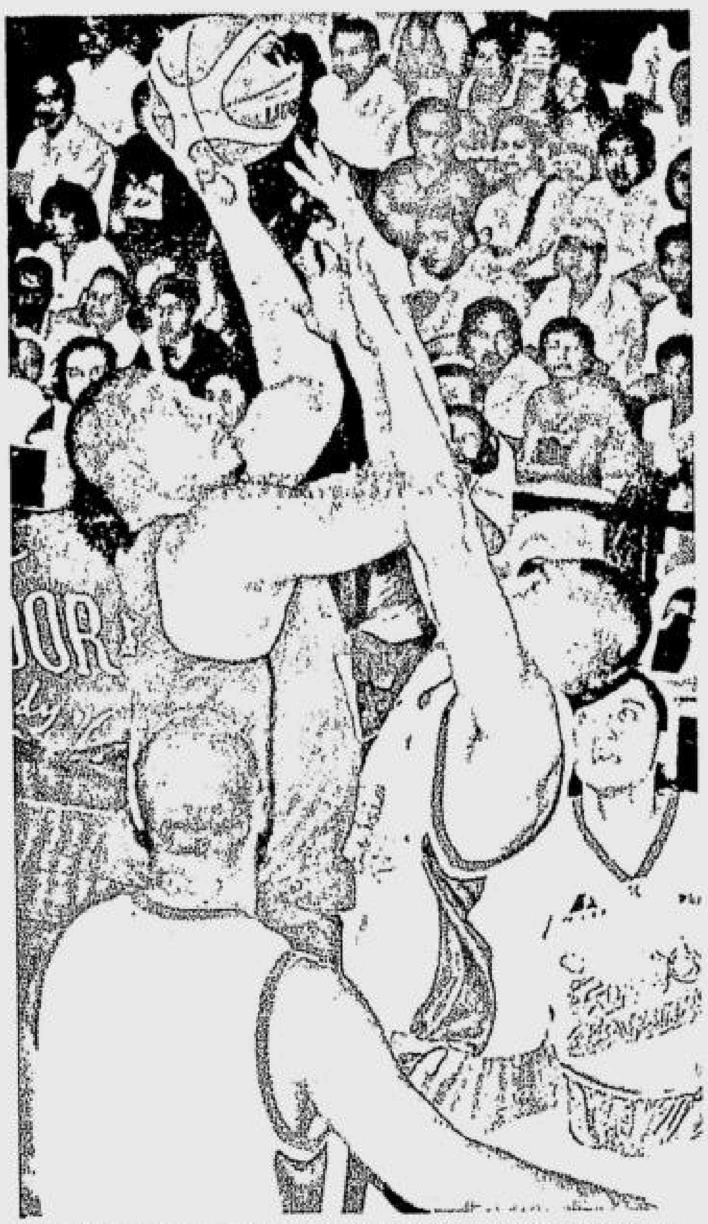
SPORTS TV
Compiled by L. Manguiat

POOL: US 9 Ball Open Finals; 7 p.m.; Solar Sports—Find out who emerges as the champion in this prestigious pool event.

BASKETBALL: NBA Pre-Season-Celtics vs Bulls; 7 a.m. (r-9 p.m.); Solar Sports—Boston and Chicago gear up for the upcoming season.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Alvarez lifts T'chargers past Barakos


RED BULL'S Davonn Harp challenges Shell's Billy Mamaril (right) and Chris Jackson (foreground) in the out-of-town game in Cagayan de Oro City. The Turbochargers prevailed. JESS YUSON

By June Navarro

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—On the verge of conking out, the Shell Turbochargers went to Rich Alvarez to rev up their offensive engine.

Alvarez powered the Turbochargers out of a sputtering first half to repulse Red Bull Barako, 93-86, last night in the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup at the Xavier University gym here.

The year's top rookie pick rifled five three-pointers, two of them in the opening minutes of the final period that gave the Turbochargers their first taste of the lead, 73-69, after being down by as many as 17 points.

"I had the feel so I fired at will," said the 6-foot-4 Alvarez, who posted a career-high 27 points on top of two rebounds, one assist and one block.

Shell is locked in a four-way tie with Coca-Cola, San Miguel and Barangay Ginebra. The loss booted Red Bull down the cellar with the Sta. Lucia Realtors at 0-2.

"We had a lousy game in the first half but with our conditioning, we were able to pull it through. It only proved that the team fits into the system," said Shell coach Leo Austria.

Almost everything went the Barakos' way in the first half as they zoomed to an 18-5 lead through the efforts of Davonn Harp and Vergel Meneses.

The onslaught continued in the second quarter with Junthy Valenzuela, Denver Lopez, Mick Pennisi and Enrico Villanueva mocking the defense of the Turbochargers without let-up.

But after the halftime break, the Turbochargers sprang back to life, overhauling a 39-52 through a 26-8 run anchored on the exploits of Alvarez.

STANDINGS	W	L
Purefoods	2	0
Talk 'N Text	2	0
FedEx	1	0
Ginebra	1	1
Coca-Cola	1	1
San Miguel	1	1
Alaska	0	1
*Red Bull	0	2
*Shell	1	1
Sta. Lucia	0	2

GAMES TODAY
(*Araneta Coliseum*)
4:30 p.m.—FedEx vs Talk 'N Text
7:20 p.m.—San Miguel vs Ginebra

The scores:

SHELL 93—Alvarez 27, Dela Cruz 20, Tubid 19, Mamaril 11, Ferreria 8, Cruz 4, Calaguio 2, Sta. Maria 2, Legaspi 0, Jackson 0, Bajar 0, Sharma 0

RED BULL 86—Harp 13, Pennisi 13, Baguio 12, Tugade 11, Valenzuela 10, Villanueva 8, Lopez 6, Meneses 6, Robinson 4, Ordonio 3. **Quarters:** 16-26, 39-52, 67-69, 93-86

BIBAT

BERNIS

Visa woes knock Bernis, Bibat out of World Am

By Musong R. Castillo

A PHILIPPINE team that has been preparing for the past month for its stint in the World Amateur Golf Championship in Puerto Rico

VISA/A26

SHARK ACCESSORIES
Rule the Road
FOR TOYOTA RAV4 PATENTED
ALUMINUM STEP PROTECTOR
REAR STEP GEAR
FREE! BUILT-IN BACKING SENSORS When you buy both Accessories.
ABSOLUTELY NO-HOLES BORED INSTALLATION!
SURESTEP

FEWER GOLDS, BIGGER SAVINGS

Philsoc set to trim ₱901-M SEAG fund

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THE SPORTS disciplines and their respective events are in place. Now the 2005 Southeast Asian Games' cost-cutting begins.

Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee (Philsoc) chair Obet Pagdanganan yesterday said the goal is to prune the already meager 2005 Games' budget by at least P100 million.

The reduced number of events for next year's meet, according to Pagdanganan, would enable the country to cut the Games' original P901-million price tag to about P800 million.

PAGDANGANAN

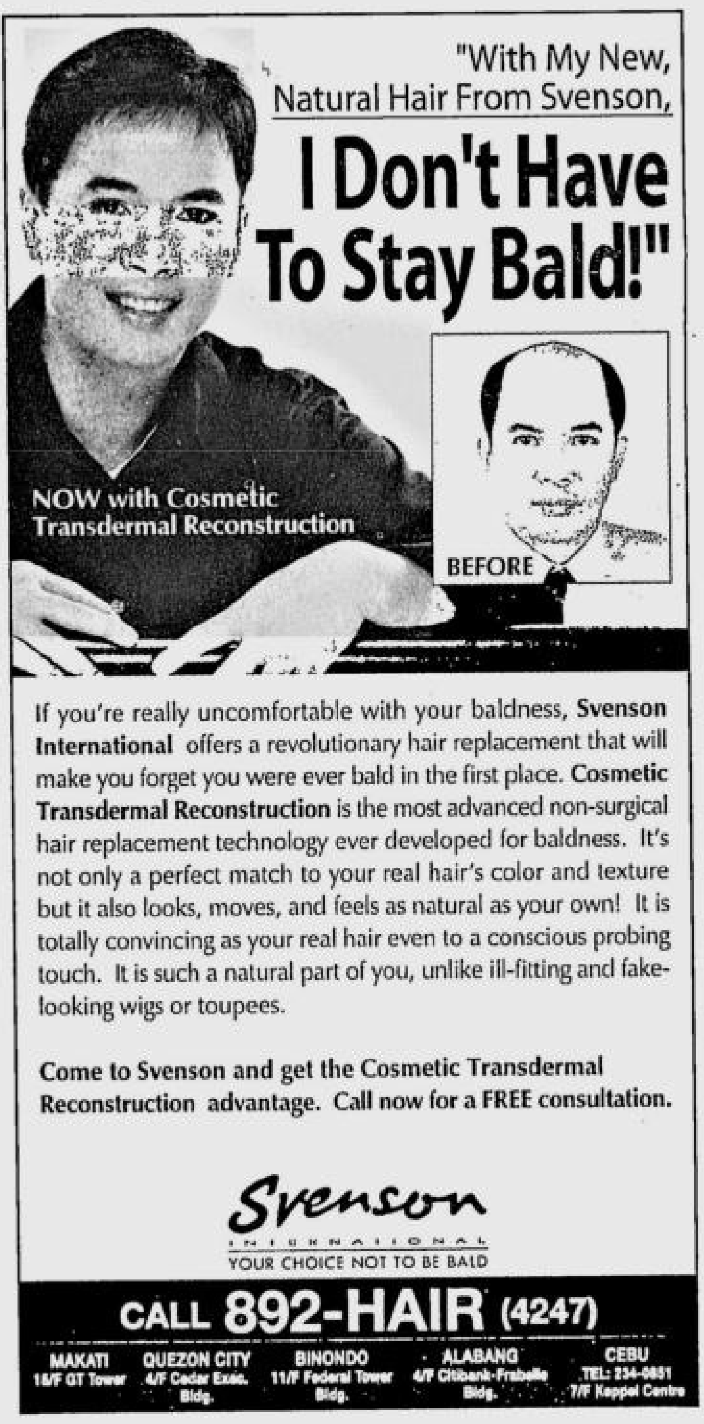
"The biggest portion of the budget would still come from refurbishing the facilities, but if we can spend less on this, we can bring it down some more," said Pagdanganan, after making his presentation during the SEA Games Federation meeting yesterday at the New World Hotel.

The SEAG Federation has approved 41 sports involving 388 events for the Nov. 27-Dec. 5 meet, the lowest in recent editions of the biennial meet.

SEAG Federation and Philippine Olympic Committee president Celso Dayrit said the country can expect a tough time in the medal race, even though the approved program is largely seen as favorable for the Philippines against rivals Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia.

The events on tap and their respective number of gold medals at stake, in parenthesis: aquatics (41 golds), archery (4), arnis (6), athletics (45), badminton (5), baseball (1), basketball (2), billiards/snookers (14), bowling (10), boxing (12), canoe/kayak (6), chess (6), cycling (12), dancesports (2), equestrian (2), fencing (12), football (2), golf (4), gymnastics (18), judo (14), karatedo (14), petanque (6), pencak silat (14), rowing (9), sailing (11), sepak takraw (4), shooting (21), soft ball (2), taekwondo (16), table tennis (4), dragonboat (6), triathlon (4), volleyball (4), wrestling (11), wushu (18), weightlifting (8), bodybuilding (4), lawn bowls (4), muay thai (4), squash (2) and lawn tennis (4).

GANG XIAN Herbal Slimming Tea for Men
Men are VAIN too...
Gang Xian herbal slimming tea for men uses selected premium-grade Chinese herbs to help keep the male body in good health and in great shape. Its combined ingredients like *Cassia Obtusfolia, Chrysanthemum leaves,* and 3 different *Camellia sinensis* help in cleansing the body of fats and toxins and lower the bad cholesterol.
From the makers of Kankunis®


"With My New, Natural Hair From Svenson, I Don't Have To Stay Bald!"
NOW with Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction
BEFORE

If you're really uncomfortable with your baldness, **Svenson International** offers a revolutionary hair replacement that will make you forget you were ever bald in the first place. **Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction** is the most advanced non-surgical hair replacement technology ever developed for baldness. It's not only a perfect match to your real hair's color and texture but it also looks, moves, and feels as natural as your own! It is totally convincing as your real hair even to a conscious probing touch. It is such a natural part of you, unlike ill-fitting and fake-looking wigs or toupees.

Come to Svenson and get the Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction advantage. Call now for a FREE consultation.

Svenson INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD
CALL 892-HAIR (4247)
MAKATI 16/F GT Tower
QUEZON CITY 4/F Cedar Exec. Bldg.
BINONDO 11/F Federal Tower Bldg.
ALABANG 4/F Citibank-Frabelle Bldg.
CEBU TEL: 234-0851 7/F Keppel Centre

Join our Golf Tour Series...
Choicest Destinations, Fabulous Golf Courses, At Affordable Prices!
Mission Hills Nov. 21-25 $ 749.00 5D/4N w/ 3 rounds of golf
Bangkok & Huahin Dec. 7-11 $ 678.00 5D/4N w/ 3 rounds of golf
For booking and inquiries, please call:
the golf shop @ baron travel
Lower Ground Floor, Cityland 10 Tower 2, 6817 Ayala Avenue North Corner H. V. De la Costa Street, Makati City
Tel.: 817-4926 • Fax No.: 819-2993 • E-mail. btcftd@barontravel.com.ph
DOT Acc. No. 10-037-2002 PTAA IATA PIATA

NBA ON sportsplus
COAST to COAST
TUESDAYS and WEDNESDAYS LIVE!
NBA 2004-2005 SEASON 21 DAYS TO GO

Come together at PETRON Treats
Everyone deserves a treat.

DOJ clams up on 'Fil-sham' report

By Jasmine W. Payo and Philip C. Tubeza

A MEMBER of the special committee that was supposedly disbanded by the Department of Justice yesterday refused to explain why—eight days after Secretary Raul Gonzalez formed a new investigating panel to handle the issue—it still submitted a recommendation recognizing eight foreign-born PBA players as Filipinos.

The alleged "old committee report," a copy of which was shown to the INQUIRER, was dated Sept. 29, 2004. It was addressed to Chief State Counsel Ricardo Paras III, whom Gonzalez appointed to head the new committee.

Gonzalez formed the new investigating panel to decide on the citizenship of the eight players on Sept. 21. He said the panel's report would come out within 10 days.

"I have nothing to say. It's confidential," said Assistant Chief State Counsel Antonio Abanilla, one of the report's three signatories, when asked why his "disbanded" committee came up with the recommendation.

Abanilla's curt reply came at the heels of a "gag order" Gonzalez issued on Justice department officials after Malacañang called his attention to alleged conflicting statements by the DOJ to the media.

Gonzalez stressed that the report quoted in the INQUIRER on Saturday was drafted by a committee formed by his predecessor and not by the panel he created to finally decide on the citizenship of the eight PBA stars.

In a one-page order, Gonzalez said DOJ officials would have to get his permission first before they can talk to reporters.

"It has come to my attention that statements which are not authorized and which tend to give the impression that the same are the official position of the Department of Justice are being released to media," Gonzalez said.

"Further, the Office the President has called our attention that there is no single voice speaking for the department," he said.

Gonzalez issued the order after certain pieces of information about the DOJ investigation on the citizenship of the players were leaked to the media over the weekend.

The report said the committee recommended the eight players to be declared as Filipino citizens. Gonzalez vehemently denied it.

Gonzalez said he has ordered an investigation as to who leaked the report.

The DOJ is investigating the citizenship of Talk 'N Text's Asi Taulava, the PBA's most valuable player last season, as well as Davonn Harp, Jon Ordonio and Mick Pennisi of Red Bull, Rudy Hatfield of Coca-Cola, Andy Seigle and Alex Crisano of Barangay Ginebra, and Dorian Peña of San Miguel Beer.

Gonzalez said the DOJ was still studying whether to tackle Taulava's case since he had secured an injunction from the Manila Regional Trial Court.

In August 2003, the Senate committee on games, amusement and sports ordered the Bureau of Immigration to deport the players for faking their citizenship.

However, the cagers have not been deported since the DOJ needs to revoke its confirmation of their citizenship first before the bureau can deport them.

The Senate committee, chaired by former senator Robert Barbers, said the documents submitted by the cagers were fake, except those of Seigle. The Ginebra forward failed to elect for Filipino citizenship when he reached legal age.

NBC CAGING

Ozamiz five gains South final

OZAMIZ CITY—The Ozamiz Cotta clinched a finals slot in the NBC (National Basketball Conference) Southern division Monday by downing the Iloilo Warriors, 99-92, before a sellout crowd at the Gov. Angel Medina gym here.

In another nip-and-tuck contest where the lead changed hands 16 times, the Ozamiz cagers took advantage of the Warriors' freethrow woes to sweep the best-of-three series and earn a crack at Tribu Sugbu in the division finals starting Friday.

The Warriors trailed just by two, 88-90, when Ozamiz gunner Melfred Sampilo fired a triple to give his team enough breathing room.

Ex-FEU Tamaraw Rhagnee Sinco muffed two freethrows after that, and then Francis Sanz, who went 10-for-16 from the stripes, split his next four to end Iloilo's bid in the tournament sponsored by Panasonic, Spring Cooking Oil, PCSO, Sulpicio Lines, Nature's Spring Mineral Water, Cebu Ferries, Air Philippines, Supercat, Skygo Motorcycles, Trans-Asia, Accel and Molten.

Sampilo scored the last nine points as Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Ozamiz cagers extended their winning run to seven.

"I can't ask for more," said Ozamiz coach Jun da Jose. *Binigay na lahat ng mga bata* (The boys gave everything they had)."

Ozamiz built a 13-point lead midway through the third quarter, but Iloilo fought back behind Sanz and Carlos Sayon Jr. to close the gap to 72-78 going into the fourth.

The scores:

OZAMIZ 99—Basilides 21, Sampilo 16, Echaves 15, Rodriguez 10, Alminario 10, Basco 10, Guiyab 4, Guerrero 4, Marquez 3, Libatog 2, Ferraren 2, Araman 2, Cabrera 0.

ILOILO 92—Sanz 21, Sinco 19, Sayon 18, Allado 11, Leonida 8, Marucot 8, Sencil 4, Sina-on 3, Senieres 0, Poral 0.

Quarters: 22-24, 57-49, 73-72, 99-92.

SLIP AND SLIDE: Darby Villaruz (left) passes Dexter Bacabac during the Veterans B race in the Camel Supercross Championship series in Bacolod City on Sunday. Villaruz held on to rule the class, lower half of the division dominated by many-time national motocross champion Jovie Saulog.

Breakthrough for Huskers

Quezon cagers outhustle Ilocos Snipers for 1st win

LUCENA CITY—The Quezon Coco Huskers bounced back from a sloppy start to repulse the Ilocos Sur Snipers, 77-64, and nail their first win in the United Regional Basketball League First Conference at the Quezon Convention Center here.

Jomar Tierra, who averaged only three points in his first three games, finally got into the groove with 26 points to lead the Coco Huskers' to their breakthrough triumph in this tournament sponsored by adidas and Lactovitale.

The Snipers, on the other hand, absorbed their second setback in three outings.

Tierra combined with 6-foot-9 former La Salle player Vincent San Diego to score 14 of the Huskers' 27 points in the second period that gave them a 41-28 halftime lead. Tierra capped that run with a buzzer-beating triple.

Booker backed up Tierra with 13 points while Dondon Mendoza was the only other Sniper who scored in double-digits with 10.

Meanwhile, Harbour Centre-Pampanga will play host to the Ilocos Sur Snipers at the University of the Assumption Gym at 4 p.m. Friday (Oct. 15).

The scores:

QUEZON 77—Tierra 26, Booker 13, Sese 10, Alcantara 10, San Diego 8, Ferrer 4, Tenorio 4, Rodriguez 2, Kong 0.

ILOCOS SUR 64—Bernardo 18, D. Mendoza 10, Barbosa 9, Cardel 8, Manigo 5, Rauschmayer 4, Yu 4, Hardin 2, Butel, Torrente 2.

Quarters: 14-13, 41-28, 60-48, 77-64.

Visa rejections knock . . .

From page A25

suffered a huge blow yesterday when two members were denied United States visas.

Jun Bernis and Singapore Amateur champion Michael Bibat were deprived of visas by the US Embassy, putting in peril the Philippines' chances in the world tournament.

Coach Roger Retuerto's visa application was also rejected despite official guarantees from the National Golf Association of the Philippines that team members would all return to the country after the tournament.

"The US Embassy has its own procedures and concerns which we now have to accept," said NGAP secretary-general Luisito Fernandez, the non-playing captain in San Juan.

The development allowed first alternate and former RP Amateur winner Artemio Murakami to make it into the lineup, along with young Gene Bondoc. Team spearhead Juvic Pagunsan and the rest of the team will leave on Oct. 19 via Los Angeles.

"We still have a fighting team despite the (rejection of the visa applications)," said Fernandez.

This marks the second time that an RP golf team has been denied visas by the US Embassy. The first time was in 1986 when a team led by Dave Hernandez and Robert Pactolerin failed to make the trip to Venezuela.

Team members were actually denied a first time last Oct. 5, but Fernandez wrote the US Embassy to reconsider its decision to no avail.

Meanwhile, the ladies' team composed of Lora Roberto, Anya Tanpinco and Jayvee Agojo leaves today, also via Los Angeles. The ladies' tournament is scheduled a week earlier.

CJ, Paeng head WC nat'l finalists

REIGNING World Cup champion CJ Suarez steps up his title bid when he competes in the Bowling World Cup men's national finals starting Friday at the Starlane s along Edsa.

Joining Suarez in the three-day event are four-time World Cup champion Paeng Nepomuceno, Chester King, Joonee Gathchalian, Biboy Rivera, RJ Bautista, Benny Dytoc and 79 other bowlers.

They will roll 12 games starting at 11 a.m. The top 28 finishers will advance to the next round at the SM Megamall, where they roll another 12 games to determine the top eight who will play in head-to-head matches at Paeng's Eastwood Bowl.

The men's champion will carry the Philippine colors in the 2004 Bowling World Cup international finals set in Singapore, from Dec. 5 to 12.

SPORTSWATCH

Arevalo, Custodio triumph

VIGAN—Patrick Arevalo blanked Lendell Chua, 6-0, 6-0, in the boys' 14-under division and JV Custodio whipped Kim Marie Guittap, 6-0, 6-2, in the girls' 12-under class to top the North Luzon Regional Finals over the weekend of the 2004 MILO Junior Tennis Cup at the Vigan Tennis Club here. Arevalo and Custodio shared the limelight with Rafael Medina, who nipped Denise Lagura, 6-4, 6-1, in the unisex 10-under; Joshua Manzanas, who tripped Stephen Dave Chua, 7-5, 6-3, in the boys' 12-under; and Margaux Ysabel Abaya who edged Mara Medina, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, in the girls' 14-under event. Arevalo, Custodio, Medina, Manzanas and Abaya qualified for the National Finals in Manila in November in the netfest organized by CTW and supported by adidas, Malaysia Airlines and Mayor Ferdie Medina.

Pacquiao among 9-ball finalists

VETERAN campaigner Ramil Gallego emerged as the top seed in the finals of the inaugural Motolite Philippine 9-Ball Open slated later this month. Gallego, who dropped only two racks in the qualifier, will face 64th seed Fidel Punzalan in the opening round of the knockout phase patterned after the World Pool Championships. Among the favorites in the event organized by Solar Sports are Dennis Orcollo, Gandy Valle, Antonio Lining, Warren Kiamco, Leonardo Andam, Antonio Gabica and Ronnie Alcano. Boxing idol Manny Pacquiao also managed to qualify and will face Valle in the initial round. The seeding was based on qualifying tournaments held from February to September. The tournament, which uses the winner's break format, offers P500,000 to the champion, P200,000 to the second, and P100,000 each to the losing semifinalists. ***Marlon Bernardino, contributor***

Cash Premyo derby Saturday

THE TRIUMVIRATE of Abraham Bernales, Mody "Porma" Almendras and Tiling Capitan will be hosting their first-ever stag event with the Cash Premyo VII 3-Stag Derby this Saturday. A total purse of P240,000 is at stake for an entry fee of P5,500. The champion handler gets P20,000, while the top gaffer wins 10,000. The fastest-kill champion based on its last fight will bring home an additional P25,000. Final screening and submission of weights and legband numbers are set on derby day from 6 to 11 a.m. All stags banded "Tag festival" are accepted, but have to be submitted for reclassification first.

120 fights on Oct. 20 4-stag event

DERBY aficionados can expect more than 120 fights in the upcoming Huling 4-Stag Derby on Oct. 20 at the air-conditioned Pasay City Cockpit. Derby hosts Kags Paliza and Aba Badiola, who recently hosted the 168-entry Super 2-Cock Ulutan, said the event will start at 2 p.m. on Wednesday. For an entry fee of only P7,700, the guaranteed prize at stake is P300,000 with a minimum bet of P5,500. Screening and leg banding is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday to Wednesday at the Pasay Cockpit, with pit manager Eric dela Rosa as official screener. Interested parties may call 816-6750, 843-1890 and 843-1746 for other details. The event sponsors are Sagupaan Complexor 3000, Sagupaan Hammer and Sagupaan Mite Free.

PMI clinches semis despite loss

MANUEL L. Quezon University edged Philippine Maritime Institute, 74-72, but it didn't stop PMI from clinching the second outright semifinal slot in the 10th Colleges and Universities Sports Association (Cusa) basketball tournament at the PMI gym. The Stallions and the Admirals actually ended up tied with World City Colleges and back-to-back champion Las Piñas College with 8 wins and 3 losses, but PMI grabbed the outright slot on a superior quotient. The Admirals join top seed Philippine College of Criminology (9-2) in the semifinals while MLQU, WCC and LPC go through the wildcard phase scheduled to start Oct. 18. MLQU, a four-time winner, could have shared the top spot with the Enforcers but dropped a 58-59 decision to WCC in the penultimate day of elimination. ***Marlon Bernardino, Contributor***

UA&P belles post 2nd victory

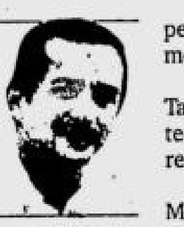
UNIVERSITY of Asia and the Pacific (UA&P) trimmed Philippine Normal University, 44-38, last Sunday to make it two in a row in the college division of the Milo BEST Women's Basketball League at the San Beda College gym. It was the best start so far for UA&P in the tournament organized by BEST Center and sponsored by Milo. The victory pushed UA&P on top of Group B, a game ahead of Ateneo, which drubbed De La Salle Lipa, 50-35, in another game. University of the East bounced back from a sorry loss on opening day by crushing Assumption College, 50-18. Assumption College spilled Community of Learners, 29-17, and Poveda overwhelmed Trinity College, 70-0, in the elementary division.

Former BAP director dies at 80

FORMER Basketball Association of the Philippines (BAP) director Francisco P. Tesorero died recently in Matina, Davao City. He was 80. A lawyer and a certified public accountant, Tesorero held different positions in local basketball, including vice president for Mindanao, for more than 20 years. He is survived by his children Francisco Jr., Cristina, Josefina, Bonifacio, Eduardo and Ma. Luisa. Longtime BAP president and two-time Fiba head Gonzalo "Lito" Puyat II paid tribute to Tesorero, saying "he's one of the key figures behind the development and growth of basketball in Mindanao." Tesorero chaired the technical commission of the Southeast Asian Games basketball competition in Manila in 1991.

A very serious leak

BARE EYE



Recab Trinidad

IT was funny to hear that most of the so-called Fil-Shams here would already be in the Hall of Fame by the time the question on their citizenship is resolved.

Truth is PBA fans and plain bystanders had already gotten tired of the case.

Many had totally lost interest after the probe hung despite a bold Senate body headed by Robert Barbers had determined that fraud was behind the borrowed citizenships of a group of cagers, headed by Asi Taulava who continues to receive royal treatment in the PBA.

Some people were just ready to take these alleged Fil-Ams as they are.

One caller even suggested these guest PBA players have been generally accepted here, despite the question' on their bloodlines.

Otherwise, said the defender, why do fans continue to pour in and patronize the PBA?

***

Maybe it was the only thing left to watch, after fiery collegiate and varsity title playoffs were over?

Anyway, there was nothing funny in that news report that all the questioned Fil-foreign players would be cleared and taken in as legit Pinoys.

That story promptly created a wild stir.

As could only be expected, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzales issued a categorical denial and ordered a probe of the leakage of what he said was "an old draft resolution on the case."

Stressing he had not yet signed the document, Gonzales vowed to release the official resolution either today or tomorrow.

It was indeed incredible how the DOJ could've made a sweeping clearance due to lack of jurisdiction and the inability to secure all the vital details in the case.

***

Thank God, the alleged ruling was not true, otherwise the DOJ would've been gravely faulted.

You know what? Inadvertent as the leak could be, it clearly served its purpose.

All of a sudden, after hesitation and delays, the DOJ is there ready and raring to come out with its ruling.

Of course, the DOJ can only be expected to rule based on findings and merits of the case.

It may also be sane to ask why Asi Taulava, found by the Barbers committee to have faked citizenship papers, has refused to face probers.

Said State Counsel Ramon Chito Mendoza: "If his papers are in order, I cannot see any reason why he should continue hiding. It's Taulava who should make the move for the lifting of the injunction."

At the same time, Mendoza announced that three Fil-American players of Red Bull, Davonn Harp, Mick Pennissi and Jon Ordonio, have been given until today to submit their position "in connection with the Senate findings that their acquisition of Filipino citizenship were fraudulent."

***

In the end, it would appear that Sen. Barbers' earlier advice that there was no need for a reinvestigation should have been heeded.

Of course, there's also reason to believe that the leak on the case had come from a clever clique that's working all out to boot out the so-called Fil-Shams from the PBA.

It was a master stroke.

The ploy has been so effective that, with the strong public displeasure over the reported clearance of the questioned aliens, conviction of some, if not all, now appears imminent.

However, after a ruling has been made, the DOJ could score a double-whammy if it proceeds to go after the real culprits, which could include government functionaries and league officials.

There are bigger monsters that should not be allowed to go scot-free.

Astros shed loser tag, gain NL final

ATLANTA—It took 43 years, but the Houston Astros are finally post-season winners.

Carlos Beltran hit two more homers and drove in five runs, while Craig Biggio and Jeff Bagwell chipped in during a five-run seventh inning that carried the Astros to a 12-3 rout of the Atlanta Braves Monday night in the deciding Game 5 of their National League playoff series.

The Astros snapped a 0-for-7 record of futility in the playoffs against their longtime nemesis. The Braves eliminated Houston in 1997, '99 and '01, but they couldn't escape their own post-season demons this time.

"This is what you can do when you've got special guys," said Roger Clemens, who came out of retirement to pitch for his hometown club.

The Astros matched the 1955 Brooklyn Dodgers for most series losses before getting their first win. The Dodgers won the World Series on their eighth try.

"When I got here, they told me they had always had problems getting to the next step," said Beltran.

Atlanta has lost Game 5 of the division series three years in a row—all at Turner Field. The second-largest crowd in franchise history, 54,068, saw another familiar ending.

Beltran homered four times in the series, breaking the Houston record for a post-season series. In a poignant note, the record was formerly held by Ken Caminiti, who hit three in an opening-round loss to the Braves in 1999.

Caminiti, who spent 10 seasons with the Astros, died Sunday of an apparent heart attack at age 41.

The news hit Caminiti's former teammates—Biggio and Bagwell—especially hard.

"I'm not going to lie to you. It was tough," Biggio said. "I think I felt his spirit out there."

"I think Cammy would be proud," Bagwell added.

Next up for the wild-card Astros is a matchup against Central Division rival St. Louis in the NL championship series starting Wednesday night at Busch Stadium.

Atlanta proudly displays 13 straight division titles but still has only one World Series to show for it. This marked the fifth straight year that the Braves' season ended at the Ted.

"Looking back at this team over the whole season, I'm pretty proud of the way we played," Chipper Jones said.

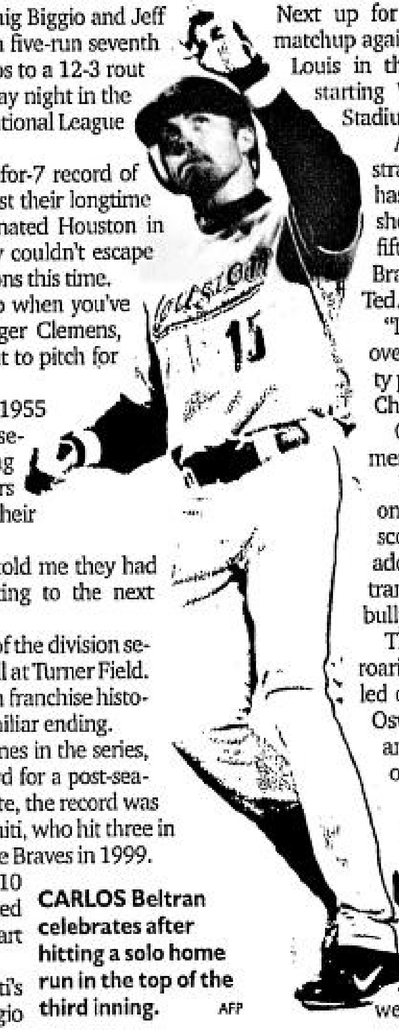
Game 5 wasn't a shining moment, though.

Houston jumped ahead 3-0 on Braves starter Jaret Wright, scoring two in the second and adding to their lead when Beltran homered into the Atlanta bullpen in the third.

The Braves had the big crowd roaring in the fifth. Rafael Furcal led off with a homer against Roy Oswalt, and Johnny Estrada hit another into the seats with two outs, pulling Atlanta to 3-2.

But Beltran quickly turned the tide back in Houston's favor. He started the sixth with a towering drive off Wright that just cleared the right-field wall.

The Astros were back in control. The Braves were done. *AP*


CARLOS Beltran celebrates after hitting a solo home run in the top of the third inning. AFP

Records tumble in world short course swim meet

INDIANAPOLIS—Aaron Peirsol lowered his own world record in the 200-meter backstroke Monday, then helped his American teammates set a world mark in the 400 medley relay on closing night of the Short Course World Championships.

Brooke Hanson of Australia won her record sixth gold medal, beating American Amanda Beard in the 200 breaststroke.

The United States won five of 12 finals Monday night, giving the Americans 21 victories in 40 events and 41 medals overall. Australia was the only other country with a double-digit medal total. The Aussies earned 29, including seven gold medals.

Peirsol's time of 1 minute, 50.52 seconds in the backstroke bettered his mark of 1:50.64 set in March at a short course World Cup meet in East Meadow, New York. He also won the 100 back.

"I had a pretty good inclination that I could do something like that," said Peirsol, who swept the backstroke events at the Athens Olympics. "It's so easy when the crowd is behind you."

The team of Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker and Jason Lezak won the relay by more than 5 seconds over Australia in 3:25.09, bettering the mark of 3:25.38 set by the University of Texas at the World Cup meet in March. The Aussies finished in 3:29.72. Russia was third.

"Every time we get together some magic happens," said Lezak, who began the evening with a victory in the 100 freestyle.

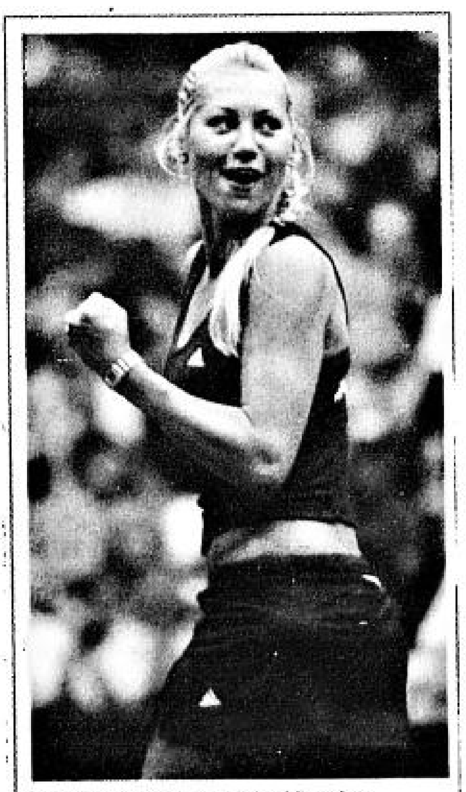
Peirsol led off and Hansen put them under world-record pace on the breaststroke leg. They fell slightly off record pace during Crocker's fly before Lezak brought it home in record time on the freestyle anchor leg.

"Those guys got me going," Peirsol said. "It's just amazing. I'm real tired."

Four world records were set during the five-day meet held in a 25-meter temporary pool at Conseco Fieldhouse.

Hanson broke the gold-medal mark she shared with China's Le Jingyi (1993) and American Neil Walker (2000). She won the 200 breaststroke in 2:21.68, ahead of Beard in 2:22.53. *AP*

AARON Peirsol celebrates a gold medal and a world record time of 1:50.52 in the men's 200-m backstroke final.


SHE'S BACK: The original Russian bombshell, Anna Kournikova, makes a return to a tennis world currently agog over compatriot and Wimbledon champ Maria Sharapova. Kournikova is part of the 12th annual World Team Tennis Smash Hits, an annual tennis event benefiting the Elton John AIDS Foundation, in Irvine, California. REUTERS

Heavy tackle intentional, says Beckham

LONDON—England captain David Beckham says he deliberately sought a booking after breaking a rib against Wales last Saturday so he could serve out a one-match suspension while sidelined by the injury.

"It was deliberate," Beckham was quoted as saying in Tuesday's Daily Telegraph newspaper.

"I knew straight away I had broken my ribs. I knew I will be out for a few weeks so I thought: 'Let's get the yellow card out of the way,'" Beckham said.

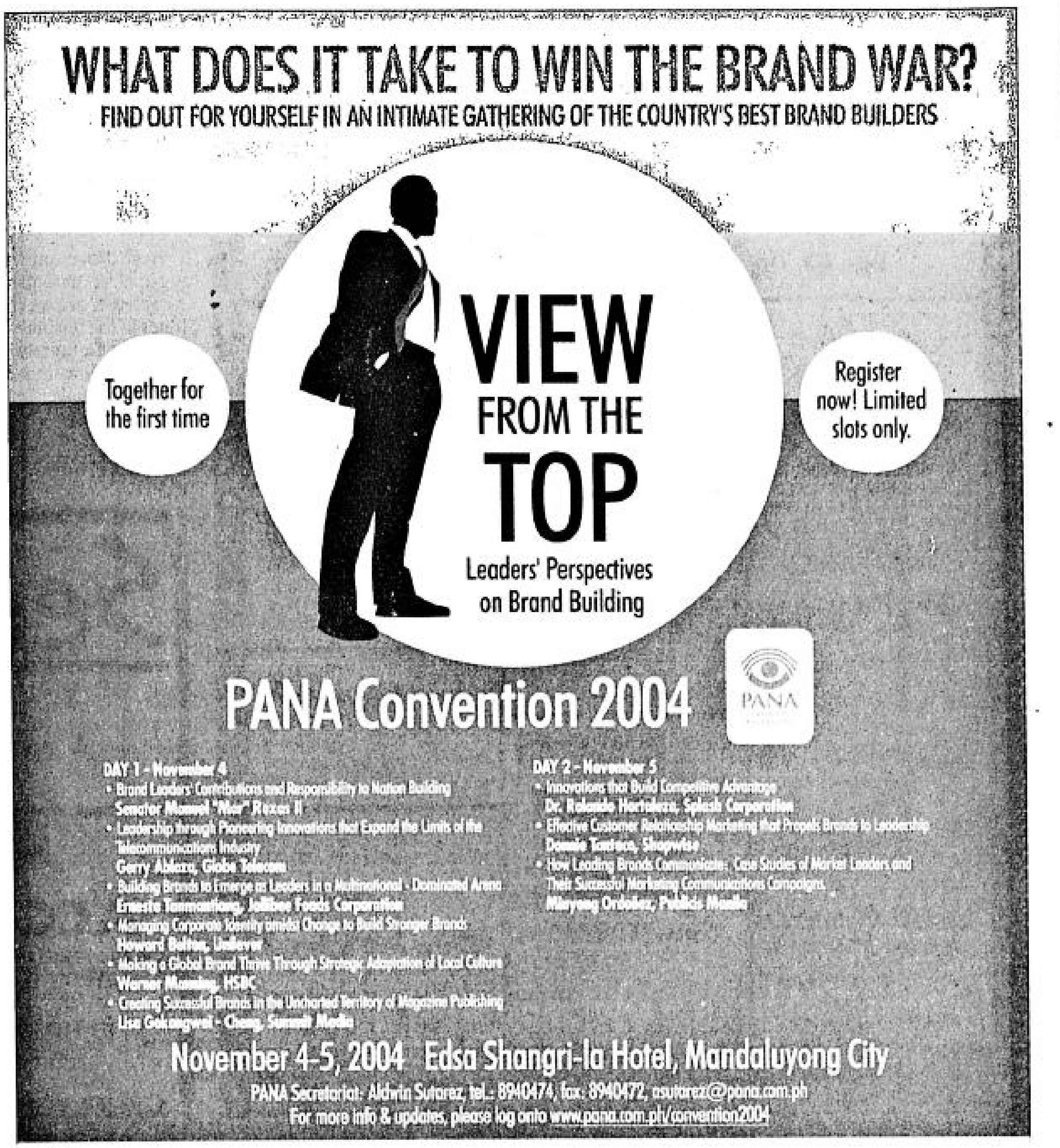
The Real Madrid midfielder, already on a yellow card from a previous game, was injured in a collision with Ben Thatcher late in the World Cup qualifier against Wales at Old Trafford.

He stayed on long enough to launch a heavy tackle on Thatcher a few minutes later and referee Terje Hauge duly booked him.

Under FIFA rules the accumulation of two yellow cards in separate games means automatic suspension for the next international.

A FIFA spokesman said the game's ruling body worldwide would have to be informed formally, such as in a complaint from an association, to look into the matter.

Beckham, who scored a spectacular goal to put England 2-0 up before his injury, will miss a qualifier away to Azerbaijan on Wednesday. *Reuters*


WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO WIN THE BRAND WAR?
FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF IN AN INTIMATE GATHERING OF THE COUNTRY'S BEST BRAND BUILDERS

Together for the first time

VIEW FROM THE TOP
Leaders' Perspectives on Brand Building

Register now! Limited slots only.

PANA Convention 2004

DAY 1 - November 4
- Brand Leaders' Contributions and Responsibility to Nation Building
  Senator Manuel "Mar" Roxas II
- Leadership through Pioneering Innovations that Expand the Limits of the Telecommunications Industry
  Gerry Ablaza, Globe Telecom
- Building Brands to Emerge as Leaders in a Multinational - Dominated Arena
  Ernesto Tanmantiong, Jollibee Foods Corporation
- Managing Corporate Identity amidst Change to Build Stronger Brands
  Howard Belton, Unilever
- Making a Global Brand Thrive Through Strategic Adaptation of Local Culture
  Werner Manning, HSBC
- Creating Successful Brands in the Uncharted Territory of Magazine Publishing
  Lisa Gokongwei - Cheng, Summit Media

DAY 2 - November 5
- Innovations that Build Competitive Advantage
  Dr. Rolando Hortaleza, Splash Corporation
- Effective Customer Relationship Marketing that Propels Brands to Leadership
  Donnie Tantoco, Shopwise
- How Leading Brands Communicate: Case Studies of Market Leaders and Their Successful Marketing Communications Campaigns
  Minyong Ordoñez, Publicis Manila

November 4-5, 2004 Edsa Shangri-la Hotel, Mandaluyong City
PANA Secretariat: Aldwin Sutarez, tel.: 8940474, fax: 8940472, asutarez@pana.com.ph
For more info & updates, please log onto www.pana.com.ph/convention2004

Sponsors:
GMA SMART GOLD ABS-CBN GLOBE TELECOM INQUIRER STAR DSL SUMMIT Bulaga! STARNETWORKS

Admark Advertising, Advertising Associates, Eagle Broadcasting Network, Gold's Gym, Hit Productions, InterContinental Broadcasting Corporation (IBC 13), Manila Broadcasting Company, Manila Bulletin, National Broadcasting Network (NBN 4), O&T Advertising Services, Production Village, Radio Philippines Network (RPN 9), Red Eye Studios, Scene Stealers Productions, Sign Media Inc., Sterling Paper Products, United Asia Productions, Unitel Productions, Alaska Milk Corporation, Film Experts Inc.

To request for a Registration Form, please fill out the form below, cut out this ad and fax it to the PANA Secretariat.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Name: ______ Company/School: ______
Telephone: ______ Fax: ______ Email: ______

GUYITO WILD HUNT

REWARDS

The wild chase is on for Inquirer's Guyito!

Look for the specially-marked Guyito coupon in the pages of Inquirer. Cut out, put your name, address and signature. Drop at designated drop boxes for a shot at your most wanted rewards!

Join the fun as Inquirer celebrates 19 exciting years of giving Filipinos no less than balanced news and fearless views.

Hunt from September 27 to December 14, 2004!

See posters and print ads for more details.

Per DTI Permit No. 2147, Series of 2004.

FUJIFILM PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER digital exchange

All products are available at Digital Exchange Glorietta 3

A more offense, suspicious bags, most likelihood and other boob-tube booboos

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

HOST: Who are the members of your new organization?

Guest: We are mostly religious, but from different faiths. We have priests, brothers, sisters and pastures.

(Send in the cows!)

* * *

Host: After the recent bombings, what can we do to make sure that no bombs will be placed in our neighborhood or place of work?

Guest: First, you have to be on the lookout for suspicious bags or boxes.

(Make that suspicious-looking, please.)

* * *

Host: Now that the canvassing of election returns has been completed, are we in for better times in the business world?

Guest: Definitely. *Mga* businessmen *natin* lies on the stability of the government.

(*Ano raw?*)

* * *

Host: How do you think the Supreme Court will rule on the petition of the opposition?

Guest: I think it will be turned down.

Host: Oh? Why?

Guest: Because, Congress, their non-legislative function of vote canvass is not a legislative function.

(Ah, so...)

* * *

Host: How many people were injured in the car crash?

Guest: Only three.

Host: That's good for the driver of the van. If more injuries, that should have been a more offense.

(*Ay*, a more offense!)

* * *

Host: Who do you think is guilty of the crime?

Guest: Most likelihood, the wife of the victim.

(*Ay*, most likelihood!)

* * *

Host: If you could have anything you want, what would it be?

Guest: Oh, I'd hire a full-time massage!

(*Ano raw?*)

* * *

Host: What do you do when your problems appear to be too much for you to handle?

Guest: When I am at a lost, I pray!

(*Ay*, at a lost!)

* * *

Host: To you, what did the last elections prove?

Guest: I think that Filipino voters are now more enlightened and discriminatory.

(You mean, "more discriminating," we hope?)

* * *

Host: What makes your restaurant so popular with diners?

Guest: People go to our place for our chicken, but people also go there for our other delicious dishes, like chicken curry and *adobo*.

(*Kulit!*)

'Bowling for Columbine'

MICHAEL Moore's award-winning anti-gun documentary, "Bowling for Columbine," will be replayed at 11 p.m. on Oct. 24 on AXN. With his trademark biting wit, Moore blends a sly mix of humor and tragedy, featuring previously unseen footage.

This includes the recorded tapes from the security cameras in the cafeteria the morning of the massacre at Columbine High, and the seriously injured Columbine students who took on the big corporation that sold the bullets now in their spines.

Moore also goes to the heart of the National Rifle Association, and asks questions that elicits a shocked response.

"Bowling for Columbine" was the first documentary ever selected for competition at the Cannes filmfest. Its awards include Best Feature Documentary at the 2003 Academy Award, Anniversary Prize at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival, and Best Documentary at the 2002 Toronto festival.

'The West Wing'

LAST Monday, Studio 23 started telecasting the fifth season of "The West Wing." While it still includes stars **Martin Sheen**, **Alison Janney**, **John Spencer**, **Stockard Channing**, **Bradley Whitford**, **Richard Schiff**, **Dulé Hill** and **Janel Maloney**, it also marks the departure of creator **Aaron Sorkin** and executive producer **Thomas Schlamme**, who left the show's reins to longtime "West Wing" executive producer **John Wells**, of "ER" fame.

Mishka Adams

MISHKA Adams, 20, the daughter of acclaimed visual artist **Agnes Arellano**, has joined the roster of singers under Candid Records. She will be launched on Oct. 16 in the first ever Candid Jazz International Festival, to be hosted by the Shangri-La Plaza Mall.

Her debut album features covers and original compositions with distinct touches of the world music beat. It will be released in Europe and Southeast Asia.

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa, Laguna) tel (049) 837.0926
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 (DTS) RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 OPEN WATER
2 (DTS) SHARK TALE
3 (DOLBY) LADDER 49
4 SECRET WINDOWS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 SECRET WINDOWS
2 (DOLBY) LADDER 49
3 (DTS) SHARK TALE
4 OPEN WATER

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 SECRET WINDOWS
2 MIND HUNTERS
3 (DOLBY) THE EXORCIST

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) LADDER 49
2 CRISANTA ...IBA KA
3 (DTS) OPEN WATER
4 SECRET WINDOW
5 PUNISHER

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 RASING HELEN
2 CRISANTA ...IBA KA
3 (DTS) PUNISHER
4 (DOLBY) FENG SHUI

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 PUNISHER
2 THE NOTEBOOK
3 TAKAW TINGIN
4 OPEN WATER

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 SAVE
2 SECRET WINDOW
3 (DOLBY) THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
4 (DTS) THE EXORCIST THE BEGINNING

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) LADDER 49
2 SHARK TALE
3 (DTS ES) OPEN WATER
4 THE NOTEBOOK

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 SECRET WINDOW
2 OPEN WATER
3 (DOLBY) LADDER 49
4 (DTS) SHARK TALE

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489
1 THE NOTEBOOK
2 OPEN WATER
3 (DOLBY) SECRET WINDOW
4 (DTS) THE EXORCISRT

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 THE NOTEBOOK
2 DODGEBALL

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 7953320
1 SHARK TALE
2 PUNISHER
3 (DOLBY) OPEN WATER

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SeeeMall!
AYALA CENTER CEBU

AT THE CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

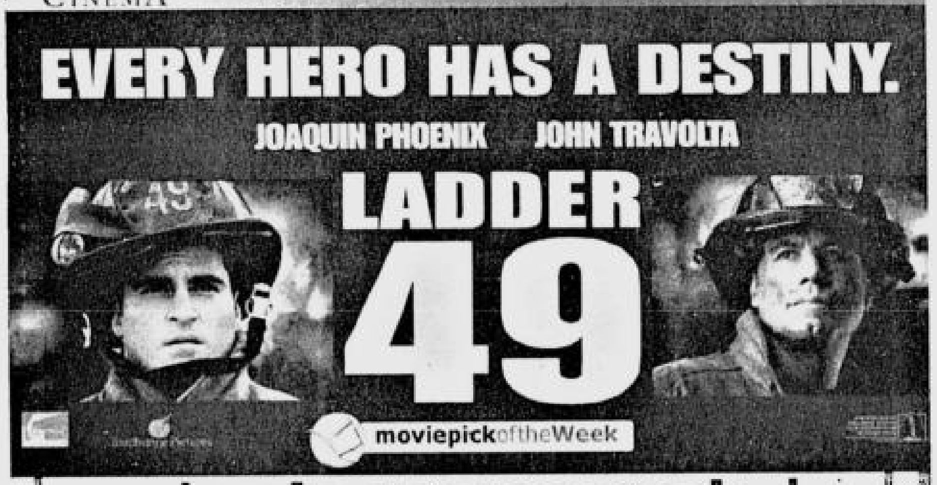
BPI AUTOMADNESS
OPENING CEREMONIES
October 14, 2004

AYALA CINEMAS

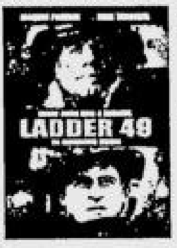
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU

1 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW
2 RAISING HELEN
3 FAHRENHEIT 9/11
4 GODSEND
5 SHARK TALE

SM CINEMA movietime



what to watch



LADDER 49 MTRCB Rating: PG 13
SM City Pampanga Cinema 1
SM City Bacoor Cinema 1
SM City Baguio Cinema 1

OPEN WATER MTRCB Rating: PG 13
SM City Baguio Cinema 3
SM City Pampanga Cinema 2
SM City Cebu Cinema 4
SM City Damariñas Cinema 2
SM City Marilao Cinema 2

THE PUNISHER MTRCB Rating: R 13
SM City Dasmariñas Cinema 6
SM City Pampanga Cinema 4

MTRCB Rating: R 13 **RESIDENT EVIL**
SM City Lucena Cinema 4
SM City Iloilo Cinema 5
SM City Cebu Cinema 1
SM City Cagayan Cinema 1
SM City Bacoor Cinema 7

SHARK TALE MTRCB Rating: G
SM City Bacoor Cinema 5
SM City Pampanga Cinema 5
SM City Davao Cinema 2
SM City Cebu Cinema 7
SM City Lucena Cinema 1
SM City Baguio Cinema 2
SM City Cagayan Cinema 3
SM City Marilao Cinema 1

Movies are subject to change without prior notice • For complete movie schedule, visit www.smcinema.com

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
CINEMA ACCESS FOR ALL BRANCHES 635-5555
Visit us: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

TOP MOVIE THEATER
22nd Annual National Consumer's Quality Award 2004
Family Consumers Choice Award 2003

NOW SHOWING

LIPA 757-3664 / 312-5870
1 THE PUNISHER
2 THE NOTEBOOK
3 TAKAW TINGIN
4 OPEN WATER
5 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY

DASMARIÑAS 852-2125 / 416-4332
1 OPEN WATER
2 LADDER 49
3 KRISANTA...IBA KA
4 RAISING HELEN
5 SHARK TALE

ANGELES 892-2348
1 LADDER 49
2 GODSEND
3 SHARK TALE
4 SECRET WINDOW

BACOLOD 441-0458 /59
1 RESERVE
2 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
3 RAISING HELEN
4 THE NOTEBOOK
5 GODSEND
6 HAUNTED SPIRITS 2

STA. ROSA (049)837-0907
1 LADDER 49
2 SECRET WINDOW
3 SHARK TALE
4 KRISANTA...IBA KA
5 OPEN WATER

IMUS 471-8188 / 875-5858
1 LADDER 49
2 RESIDENT EVIL 2
3 THREE
4 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
5 FENG SHUI
6 OPEN WATER

STARMILLS 875-1927 / 961-5270
1 SHARK TALE
2 SAVED
3 OPEN WATER
4 RESIDENT EVIL 2
5 LADDER 49
6 FAHRENHEIT 9/11

ILOILO 336-8070 / 78
1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
2 SHARK TALE
3 SAVED
4 SECRET WINDOW
5 TAKAW TINGIN
6 HEAVEN'S POND

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

'Shark Tale' bites a big chunk of weekend box office

LOS ANGELES—The gangster cartoon "Shark Tale" roughed up its rivals at the North American box office for a second weekend, while Billy Bob Thornton scored a touchdown at No. 2 with his new school football drama "Friday Night Lights," according to studio estimates issued on Sunday.

Among other new releases, former "Saturday Night Live" star Jimmy Fallon's headlining debut "Taxi" stalled at No. 4, while ubiquitous teen queen Hilary Duff's latest drama "Raise Your Voice" struggled to be heard at No. 6.

DreamWorks' "Shark Tale," featuring the voices of Will Smith and Robert De Niro in the story of fishy mobsters, bit off $31.7 million for the three days beginning Friday, taking its 10-day catch to $87.7 million. The film cost about $70 million to make.

In an era where most big openers lose more than half their audiences in the second weekend, "Shark Tale" dropped just 33 percent, aided by favorable word-of-mouth and by the US Columbus Day holiday on Monday, when about 35 percent of schools were closed, said Jim Tharp, the closely held studio's distribution president.

Universal Pictures' "Friday Night Lights," a fact-based saga starring Thornton as the coach of a high school football team in the Texas town of Odessa, followed with a better-than-expected $20.6 million in its first weekend.

The film, a passion project for producer Brian Grazer for the past dozen years, attracted strong critical reviews as well as favorable exit poll ratings, said Universal distribution president Nikki Rocco. Surprisingly, given its setting, 54 percent of the audience was aged over 25, she added.

The film, budgeted at just over $30 million, also stars Derek Luke and Lucas Black as two of Thornton's players. It was directed by Peter Berg.

Last weekend's No. 2, Touchstone Pictures' firefighting drama "Ladder 49," starring John Travolta and Joaquin Phoenix, slipped to No. 3 with $13.3 million for a 10-day total of $41.2 million.

20th Century Fox's "Taxi," a remake of a hit French comedy, flagged down $12.1 million. Its total, since opening on Wednesday, stands at $12.7 million. Fallon plays a dumb cop who joins forces with a New York taxi driver (Queen Latifah) to hunt a gang of sexy bank robbers.

Fox distribution president Bruce Snyder said the film opened within the studio's diminished expectations. Several months ago, he had been forecasting a bow in the $20-million range, about equal to its modest budget. He said the movie's 43 percent bump from Friday to Saturday was promising.

By contrast, the jump for "Friday Night Lights" was 20 percent.

Columbia Pictures' sci-fi conspiracy "The Forgotten," starring Julianne Moore, fell two places to No. 5 with $7.5 million in its third weekend. Its total rose to $48.6 million.

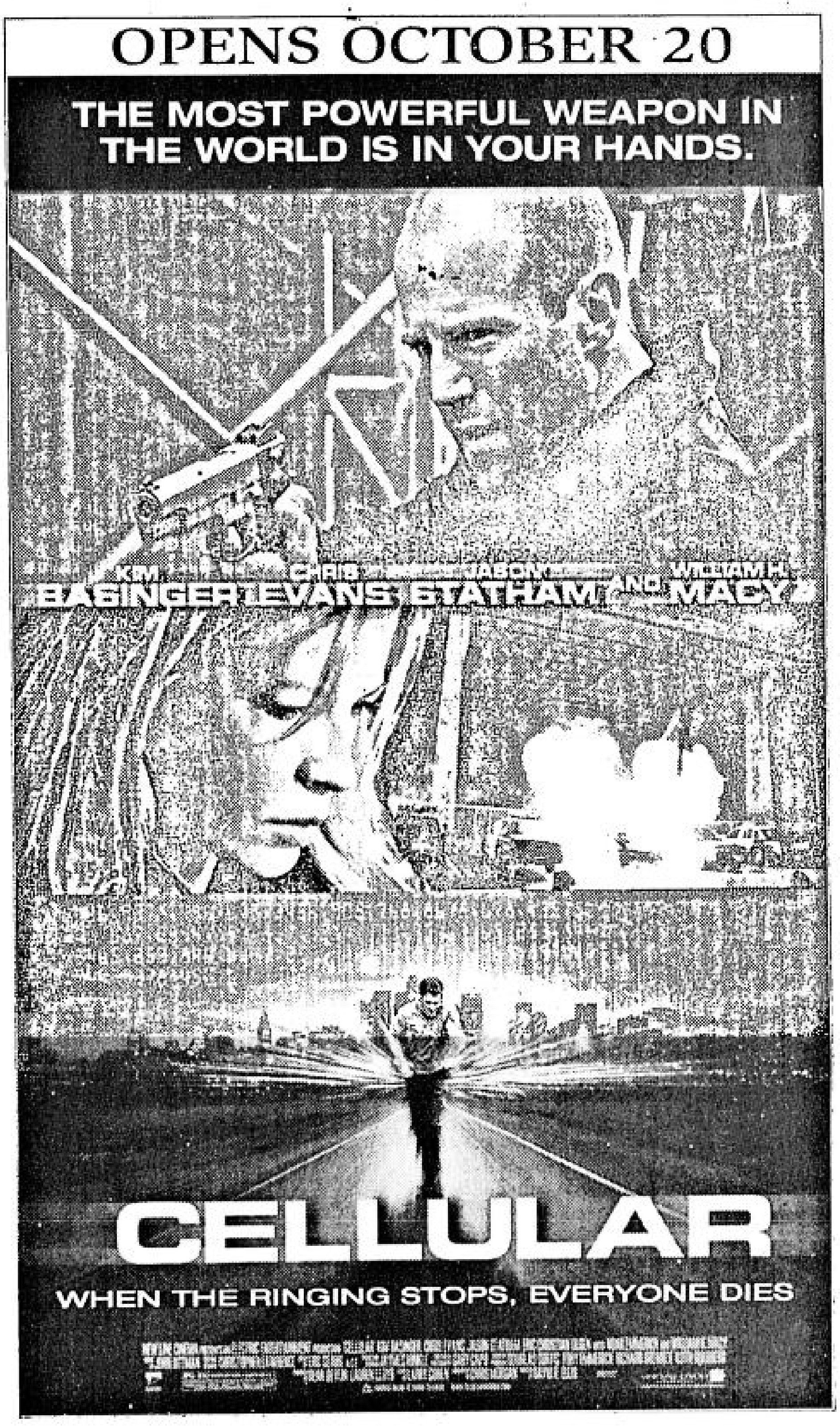
New Line Cinema's "Raise Your Voice," in which Duff gets to sing a few songs in her role as a student at a prestigious music academy, earned $4.6 million since opening on Friday. Her last film, "A Cinderella Story," opened at No. 3 with $13.8 million in July.

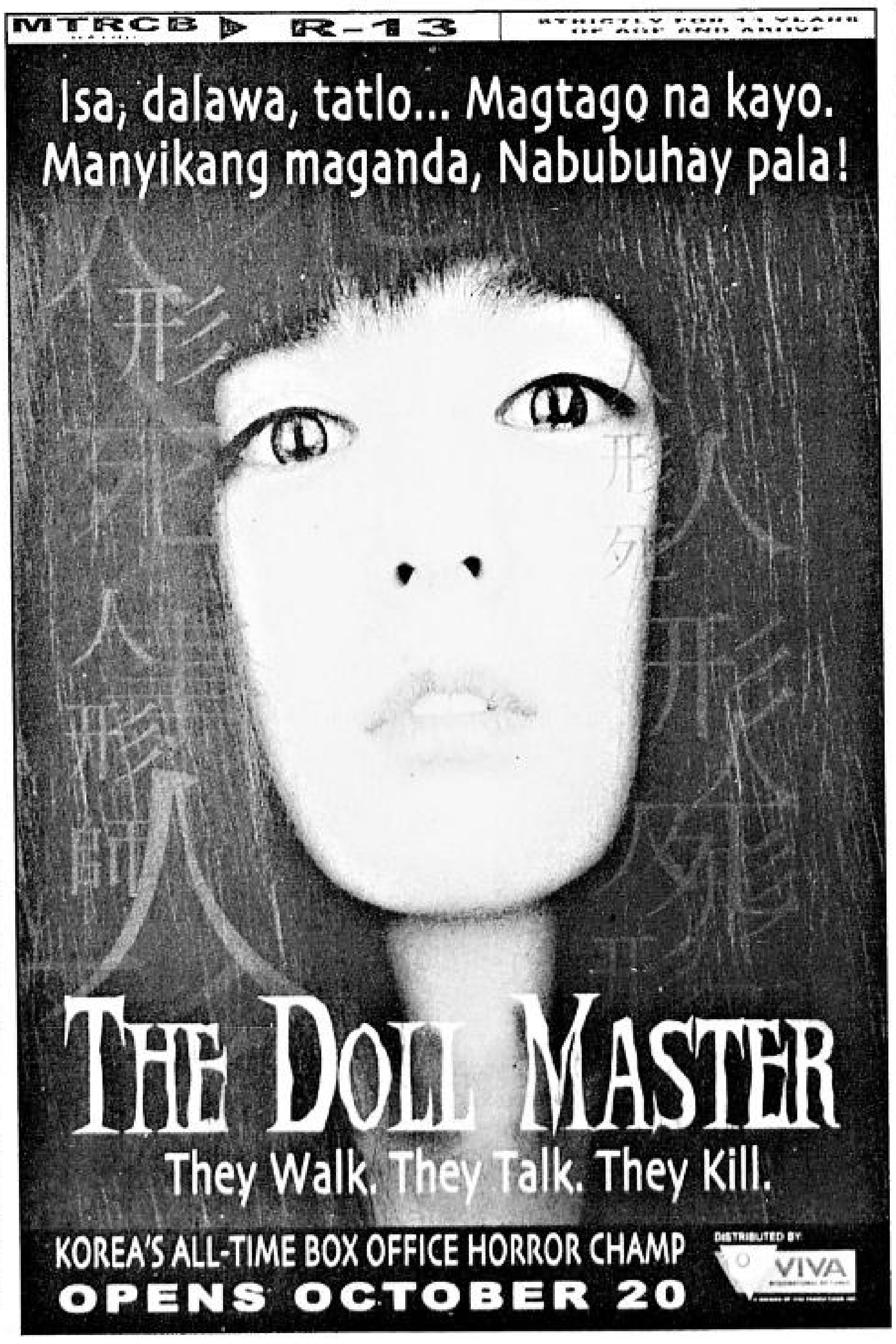
Universal Pictures is a unit of General Electric Co.-controlled NBC Universal. Touchstone Pictures is a unit of Walt Disney Co. 20th Century Fox is a unit of News Corp.'s Fox Entertainment Group Inc. Columbia Pictures is a unit of Sony Corp. New Line Cinema is a unit of Time Warner Inc.

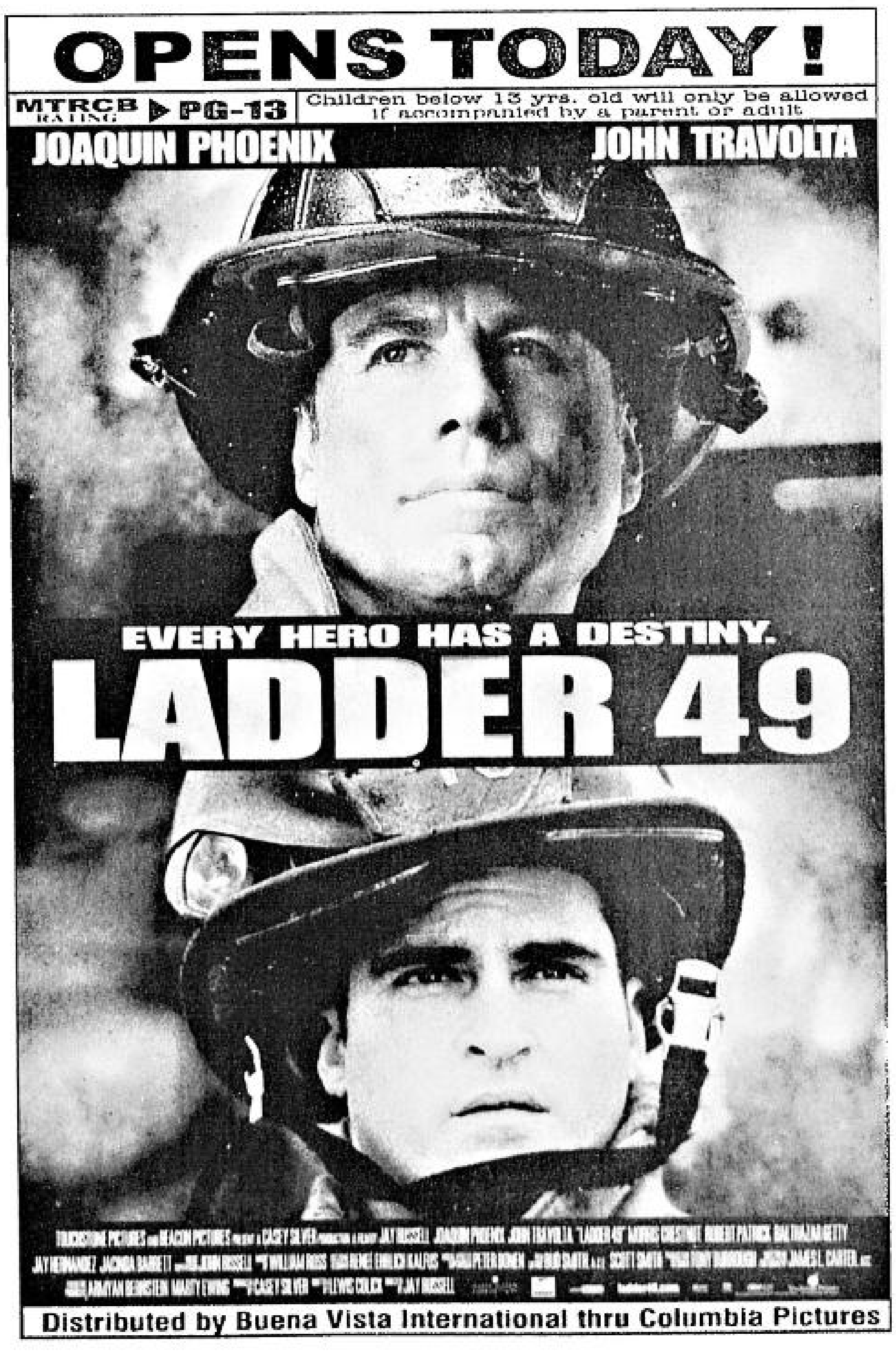
Reuters

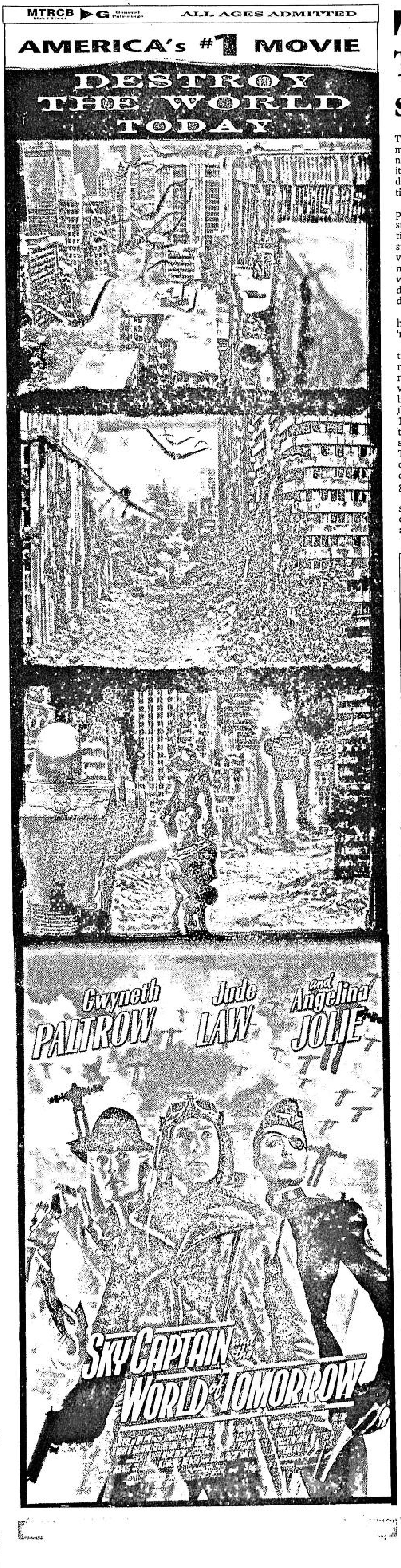
MTRCB RATING ▶ G
For General Audience
Now in its 2nd Hit Week!
Starring the voices of
Will Smith
Renée Zellweger
Jack Black
Robert De Niro
Angelina Jolie
Martin Scorsese
From the creators of
SHREK
Shark Tale

OPENS TODAY!
MTRCB RATING PG-13
PARENTS ARE ADVISED OF SOME BATTLE SCENES THAT MAYBE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN BELOW 8 YRS OLD.
FROM THE PRODUCER OF "CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON" AND "HERO"
十面埋伏
HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
DISTRIBUTED BY WARNER BROS. PICTURES


OPENS OCTOBER 20
THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON IN THE WORLD IS IN YOUR HANDS.
KIM BASINGER
CHRIS EVANS
JASON STATHAM
AND
WILLIAM H. MACY
CELLULAR
WHEN THE RINGING STOPS, EVERYONE DIES


MTRCB ▶ R-13
Isa, dalawa, tatlo... Magtago na kayo.
Manyikang maganda, Nabubuhay pala!
THE DOLL MASTER
They Walk. They Talk. They Kill.
KOREA'S ALL-TIME BOX OFFICE HORROR CHAMP
OPENS OCTOBER 20
DISTRIBUTED BY
VIVA


OPENS TODAY!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
JOAQUIN PHOENIX
JOHN TRAVOLTA
EVERY HERO HAS A DESTINY.
LADDER 49
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures



Trumpets launches street dance contest

TRUMPETS Playshop, the multimedia workshop company, announces that the registration for its first major inter-school street dance competition is going on until Nov. 15.

The grand finals of Trumpets Playshop's first street dance competition will be held side by side with the Manoeuvres' dance concert, "Manoeuvres Beyond" which celebrates the dance group's two decades of dancing prowess.

SHOW TIME

Members of the Manoeuvres have been teaching all year 'round at Trumpets since 1996.

"Totit Gonzalo was the first one to teach at Trumpets Playshop," recalls Rene Sagaran, pioneer member of the Manoeuvres. "He was also one of the pioneer members of the group. He inspired us to teach. When he passed away in 1999, the group committed itself to continue his legacy of teaching street dancing to the youth. That's why we called our dance concert 'Manoeuvres Beyond' because we're like passing on the gift.

"We're also holding a major street dance competition to officially recognize street dancing as a dance form."

Jon Jon Supan, another pioneer member of the Manoeuvres, says, "Street dancing is like basketball. It has a popular following."

Trumpets Playshop's first street dance competition is open to all high school and college students in Metro Manila. The school should write a recommendation saying the group is the school's official representative.

Registration fee is P1,500 per group.

At stake are more than P100,000 in prizes.

A group must have eight to 10 members, male or female, and must prepare a four- to five-minute dance routine of a medley of three to five pure street dance tunes. The group may use props and other dance paraphernalia during the elimination rounds.

On the second week of December, 10 groups will be selected from each of the two divisions.

The criteria for judging are: creativity and originality of choreography, 30 percent; execution, timing and precision, 30 percent; attitude, character, form, confidence, 20 percent; audience impact, 10 percent; and costume, 10 percent.

For inquiries about the street dance competition, or if you want the Manoeuvres to visit your school, call 636-2842 or 633-5010.

LUCY Torres-Gomez, one of the country's most beautiful faces, reveals her list of favorites. Lucy says most of her favorite fashion moments are of childhood days spent in the province with her mom, cousins, sisters and aunts. "My mom once left me, my sister and a cousin under the care of my aunt, Tita Liclic, who dressed us up in my mom's silky half-slips, tied ribbons around our arms and matched the outfit with smoky eye makeup. We raided my mom's shoe cabinet and got the highest heels we could fit our tiny feet into. We looked like flapper girls. I knew then that I would always love dressing up." Lucy also lists her beauty commandments. "Smelling good is just as important as looking good." Her revelations are in the latest issue of Mega magazine, from Mega Magazines & Publications Inc. (MMPI)/The Mega Group. It is available at all leading bookstores and newsstands nationwide. For more information, call 631-2859.

SKY CAPTAIN AND THE WORLD OF TOMORROW

Saving the World from nuclear powered doomsday machines

Opening at #1 in the US boxoffice, the $80m epic *Sky Captain And The World Of Tomorrow* is on its way to make motion picture history. The film is a landmark in special effects imagery with over 2,000 FX shots.

The story is pure saving-the-world pulp fantasy. Dr. Totenkopf, a brilliant scientist, is out to destroy the world with nuclear powered doomsday machines. He is also building an ARK to accommodate the living things he has chosen to survive doomsday.

Can a pilot *(Jude Law)*, a reporter *(Gwyneth Paltrow)* and a commander *(Angelina Jolie)* with her army of warriors defeat Dr. Totenkopf and save the lives of millions?

Director *Kerry Conran* provides majestic vision to a story ripped half from comic books and half from film noir. He channels the artistry of "Metropolis" and blends it with the dashing adventures of "Raiders of the Lost Ark"... and he is entirely devoted to the whimsical, larger-than-life result.

Technical gimmickry and fine thespians are forgettable when a film lacks thematic appeal; "Sky Captain," for all of its exterior merits, does not disappoint on its human ones. The film is mythically self-aware, from call to action to threshold barriers to a denoument as ironic as it is iconic; the clash of good and evil, of apparent gods and mortals, of tragic weaknesses and heroism with depth is as delineated as it was in Lucas' "Star Wars" – and as pleasurable to experience. Don't look for hidden motives, subplots and an exploration of the dark recesses of the human mind; this is model storytelling of the most fantastic kind – the kind we grew up with and dream about, the kind we haven't seen in decades. •

ANGELINA JOLIE as
Captain Franky Cook

ADVT

Wanted: dog killer

BOSTON—Former "Friend" star Matthew Perry and comedian Richard Pryor are contributing to a reward bounty for information leading to the arrest of the person who drowned a golden retriever in the ocean surf north of Boston.

The dog was tied up, muzzled and stuffed inside a burlap bag, reports said.

The retriever was dead when someone walking on the beach discovered it in shallow waters on Sept. 21.

Pryor found out about the dog's death through a network of fellow animal lovers, according to Linda Horsley, a pet sitter who is helping with the rewards efforts.

"The thinking is just so sick," said Horsley. "It's important to get the person caught and jailed. It's important to raise the awareness that cruelty to animals is just not tolerable." *AP*

Oyo Boy: Stay away . . .

From page A32

we became more mature, we thought better of our situation," he said. "We thought life was really like that, that they are our siblings and we should accept them and love them."

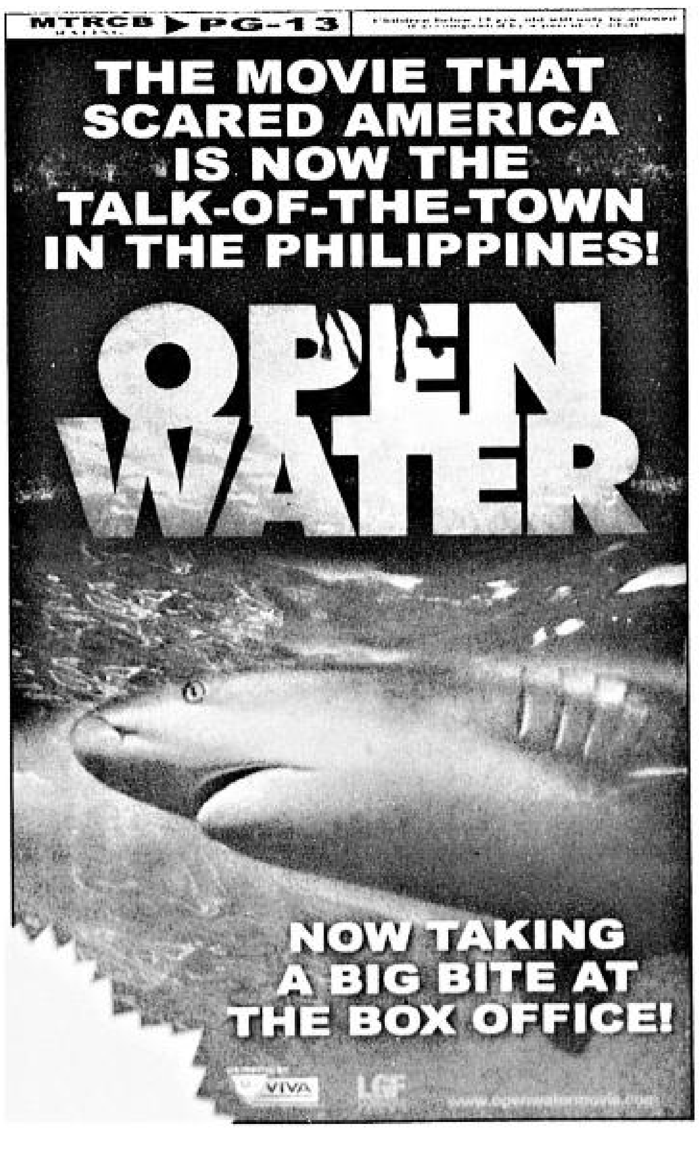
Vic has a son by former television host and actress Coney Reyes, and a daughter by former starlet Angela Luz.

When it comes to his own love life, Oyo Boy wants to keep things to himself. He and actress Alessandra de Rossi were once a couple, but they have long ended the relationship.

"I don't even confide in my dad when it comes to my love life," said Oyo Boy, who plays a ghost in director Joven Tan's "Forever My Love." "*Kanya-kanya kami.* Even though we've grown closer throughout the years, I don't talk to him when it comes to my love life. I keep a distance."

Like most young people, Oyo Boy goes for hip hop and rap music. He wears oversize trousers and an earring in his left ear. He also loves cars.

"My mom chose this for me," he said, referring to his earring. "I used to have two, but I lost one, and my mom still doesn't know it. I still have to tell her."


MTRCB PG-13
THE MOVIE THAT SCARED AMERICA IS NOW THE TALK-OF-THE-TOWN IN THE PHILIPPINES!
OPEN WATER
NOW TAKING A BIG BITE AT THE BOX OFFICE!
VIVA
LGF

Baguio gets ready to raise curtains for MMFF

By Vincent Cabreza,
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—The country's summer capital began sprucing up its parks and its cinemas to prepare for the local launch of the Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) in December.

The cities of Baguio, Cebu, Davao, Lucena and San Fernando in Pampanga will simultaneously screen the eight movies in this year's MMFF starting Dec. 25 to fight film piracy and to revitalize the local film industry, said Benedicto Alhambra, acting Baguio City administrator.

Baguio was selected to kick off the annual "Parade of Stars" on Dec. 15 to symbolize the festival's national character, said Alhambra.

Chinggoy Alonzo, MMFF coordinator for Luzon, negotiated for Baguio's inclusion in the experimental nationwide release of what are arguably the best commercial Filipino films of the year.

Alhambra said institutionalizing Baguio's new role as the MMFF's curtain raiser should renew the city's unacknowledged ties to local cinema.

Baguio was a favorite venue for location shoots during the studio rivalry between Sampaguita Films and LVN Productions in the 1950s and 1960s which compelled them to produce the biggest number of films since World War II ended, said former Mayor Virginia de Guia.

De Guia was once a movie actress with the screen name Lydia Leynes, who acted opposite actor Rogelio de la Rosa.

Towards the 1980s, filmmakers shot entire films in this mountain city because of its relative isolation and the indifference of residents to celebrity sightings, Alhambra said.

"You don't see people here (mill around) movie stars who go to Baguio," he said.

In fact, celebrities sometimes found Baguio residents to be a hostile crowd. But no one complained when filmmaker Celso Ad. Castillo directed an erotic thriller at Burnham Park in the early 1990s.

Alhambra said Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando, who is also chair of the festival executive committee, had requested for a 60-percent share in MMFF revenues from Baguio theaters to subsidize the parades.

The city government is also producing a small festival for Baguio filmmakers at the Baguio Convention Center on Dec. 15.

Acclaimed filmmaker Kidlat Tahimik, director Butch Perez and cinematographer Boy Yñiguez have been invited to preview their films along with amateur productions from local universities.

UP Baguio had just concluded its first Baguio Amateur Video Film Festival.

Alhambra said Baguio tried to launch its own film festival in the 1960s to capitalize on its cinematic potentials, but it did not catch fire. Instead, Baguio's open-door policy in 1962 allowed movie stars to relocate their summer homes here.

"I remember seeing Mario Montenegro (now deceased) attending Sunday Mass every week when I was young," he recalled. "Dolphy had a house here, but it was gutted by fire. Alma Moreno has a house here. Nida Blanca (also deceased) has a house here."

The city taxes filmmakers P5,000 for a location shoot, and occasionally requires them to put up a P10,000 bond.

Kidlat recently started convincing residents to patronize the four remaining homegrown movie theaters, whose business suffered from competition with the opening of the SM City Baguio cinemas.

Alhambra said the city wants at least two Baguio moviehouses preserved because of their historical value: Session Theater and Plaza Theater, both known for their art-deco design. Session Theater, however, closed shop in 1999.

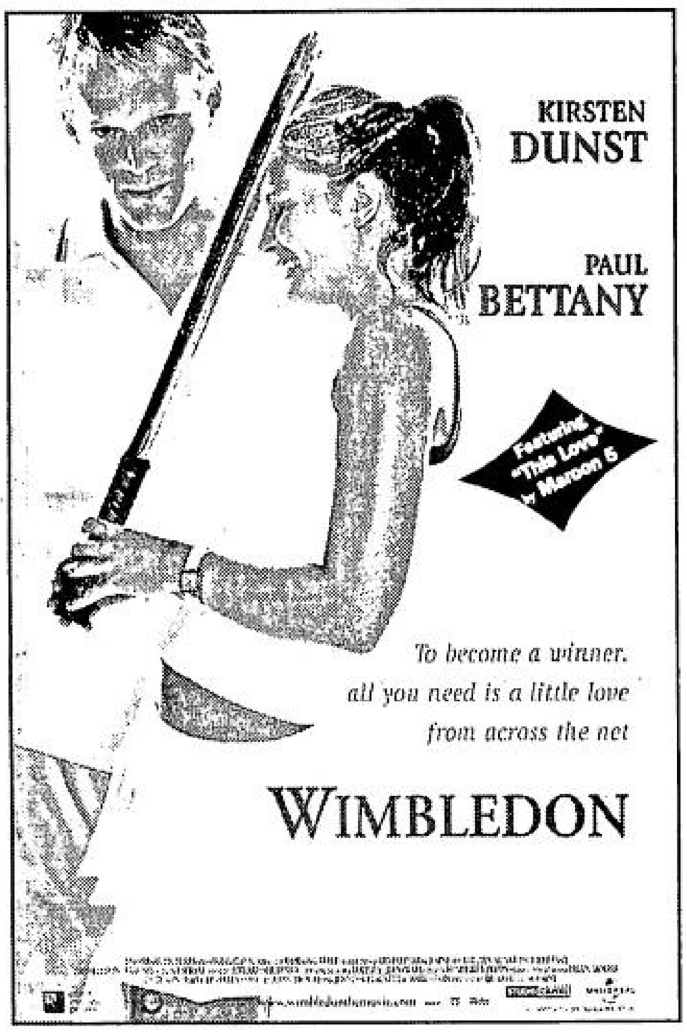
Only four cinemas currently operate in the city outside the malls, although the Baguio Center Mall is reviving two of its theaters, which closed down when SM City Baguio opened last year.

Alhambra said Baguio theater owners are revitalizing their systems and refurbishing their seats in anticipation of a good market during the MMFF.

NOT JUST A PLASTIC CARD
The MTV Credit Card, flashed above by MTV VJs Sarah Meier and Mark Abaya, was launched recently at the Temple Bar, with music, performances, raffles and treats. The MTV Credit Card gets you the clothes, gizmos, food, drinks, services and other amenities that you like. Included in every MTV Credit Card are loads of discounts, freebies, perks and privileges. It is the newest co-branded card between Equitable CardNetwork Inc. (Equitable Card) and MTV Networks Asia, the same team that brought you the MTV Debit Card. Apply for an MTV Credit Card at any Equitable PCI Bank branch. For more information, log on to www.equitablecard.com/mtv.

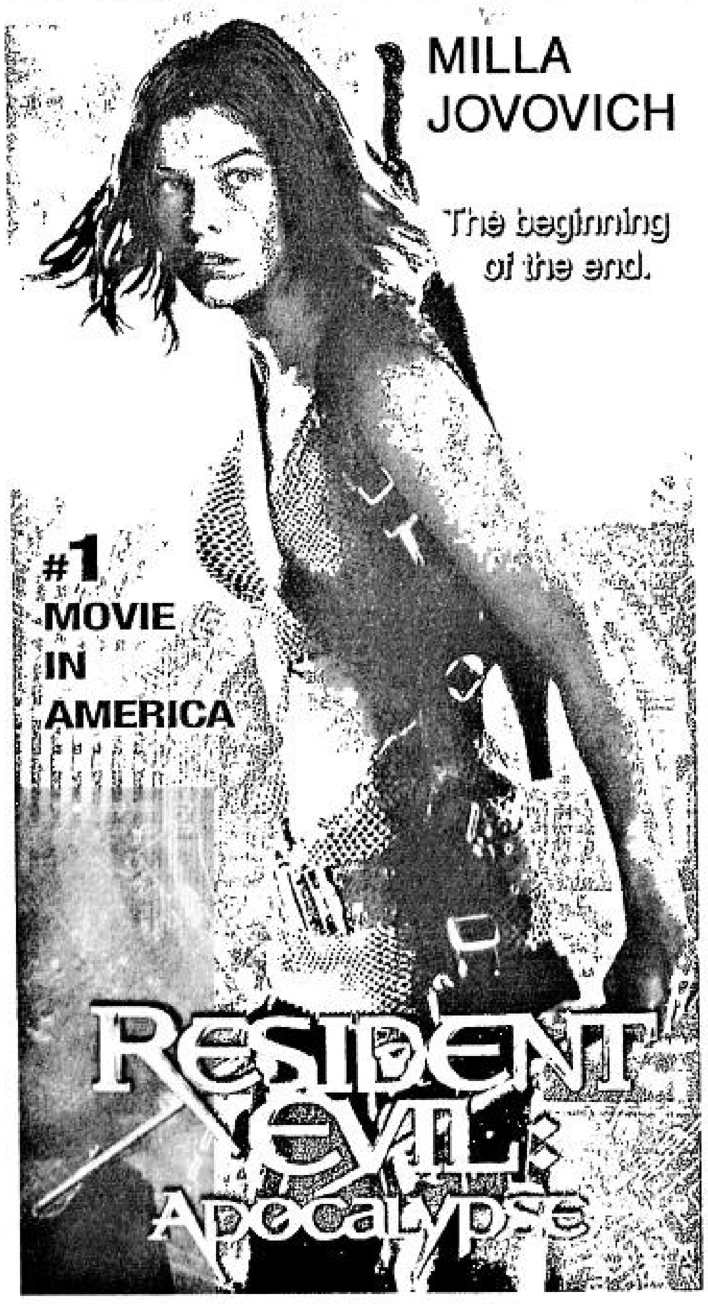
ABS-CBN in cooperation with
SAN MIGUEL
THE MUSICMAN AT 50
OCTOBER 15 & 16, 2004 • 8pm
CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
TANGHALANG NICANOR ABELARDO (Main Theater)
Together with the country's biggest and most respected artists.
Sarah Geronimo • Janno Gibbs • Kuh Ledesma • Piolo Pascual • Jericho Rosales
Basil Valdez • Gary Valenciano • Regine Velasquez
Bayani Agbayani • Al-al delas Alas • Arnel Ignacio
plus an ALL-STAR CAST
Writer: JOEY REYES • Directed by: JOHNNY MANAHAN
For Ticket Inquiries and Reservations:
TICKETWORLD at 891-9999/891-5610 and www.ticketworld.com
National Bookstore, SM Malls, Tower Records Makati & Alabang, Ayala Cinemas, Greenbelt 1 and Glorietta 1, Selected Robinson's Department Stores
TICKET PRICES
Orchestra Center : P3,000 • Lower Boxes: P2,500 • Orchestra Sides: P2,000 • Rear Orchestra Sides: P1,500 • Balcony 1: P1,000 • Balcony 2: P500

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
ANOTHER "TALK-OF-THE-TOWN" ROMANTIC LOVE STORY FROM THE COMPANY THAT GAVE YOU "THE NOTEBOOK"



KIRSTEN DUNST
PAUL BETTANY
Featuring "This Love" by Maroon 5
To become a winner. all you need is a little love from across the net
WIMBLEDON

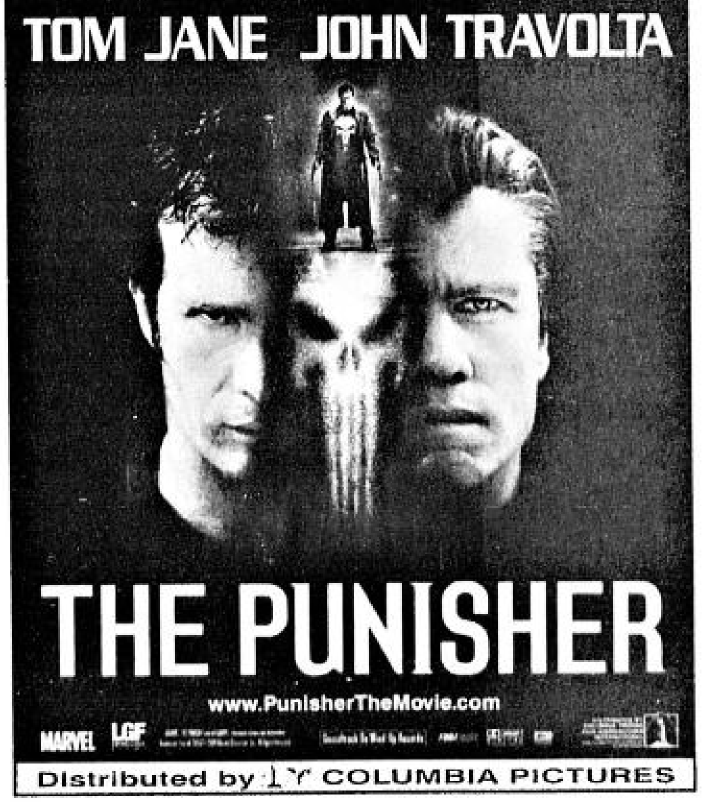
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
★★★ FLASH ★ FLASH ★ FLASH ★★★
BREAKING BOXOFFICE RECORDS IN MANILA



MTRCB RATING R-13 OPENS TODAY!
ASIA'S TOP DIRECTORS TERRIFY AUDIENCES IN THE MOST HORRIFYING GHOST STORIES EVER FILMED!
WINNER! BEST PICTURE BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY BEST DIRECTOR BEST ACTOR

Tatlong beses kang mamamatay sa sindak!!!
three
This time, you'll be haunted by bizarre emotions more intense than FEAR!
Distributed by Solar Entertainment Corporation

Marvel's Unstoppable Vigilante Strikes!
2ND 'REVENGE' WEEK!
MTRCB ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OLD AND UP



Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

Laugh Out Loud as FBI Agents Go Undercover!
GENDER BENDER COMEDY BEGINS OCT 20
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
To protect two white divas, they have to become them.

FBI
FBI
WHITE CHICKS
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "SCARY MOVIE"
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

Oyo Boy: Stay away from me

Dina's son makes sure he intimidates men who want to be her boyfriend

By Nini Valera

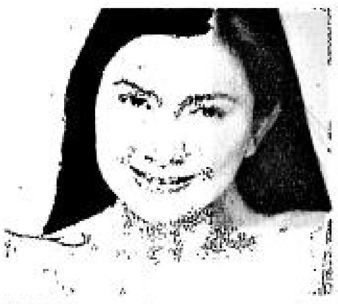
WITNESS TO VIOLENCE. Oyo Boy says he's still haunted by scenes of violence from his mom's second marriage

OYO Boy Sotto admits he makes it a point to intimidate his mom Dina Bonnevie's boyfriends after he was traumatized by the scenes of violence he witnessed when her second husband would beat her up.

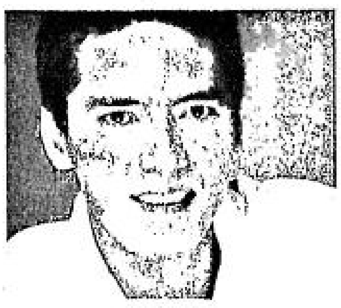
Until he was four years old, Oyo Boy, now 20, Dina's son by comedian Vic Sotto, did not know that a child was supposed to have a father.

"I make it appoint to intimidate them," Oyo Boy said seriously, referring to men who want to be his mom's boyfriend, "because I don't want to see my mom cry. I was traumatized when I saw how her second husband would beat her up."

In 1999, Dina had married again, this time to a man who would lose in the 2001 elections. Dina herself had refused to discuss the man in a previous interview with Inquirer Entertainment. She said that relationship had not been healthy for her and her kids.



DINA Bonnevie



VIC Sotto

Know your place

Scenes of violence from that marriage continue to haunt Oyo Boy.

"I saw how he beat her up," he related. "I would stand between them and try to stop the beating. I wasn't scared to get hurt. She's my mother. He did not hurt us, he couldn't. My sister and I were witnesses to his violence, and I was traumatized by the experience."

He said he does not mind that his mother has boyfriends, "but they should know their place."

"I let them know that there are limitations," he said. "I make them feel it's okay for them to be around my mom, to court her, but they shouldn't try to get close to me or to act as if they are my father. Like, *huwag ka nang mag-feeling tatay kasi may tatay na ako* (Don't try to be a father to me because I already have one).

"That's what I make them feel. There are those who already know my stand. But others would get to my mom to get to me. Like she would tell me that this 'tito' would like to take me out to some place. I would ask my mom, why would he want to do that? She would tell me that he wants to get to know me, that he doesn't have a son of his own. I get irritated when this happens, really irritated. Why do they want to know me?

Don't make her cry

"I don't really want them to play dad to me. They should just be what they are to my mom, whatever it is, boyfriend or what, but they must never try to play dad to me. All I ask is that they take care of my mom, not to hurt her and make her cry. But please, lay off me.

"I feel that if I develop a bond with a boyfriend, the guy would feel that he's already okay with my mom because he's okay with her kids and that if something happens between them, we might even come to his defense.

"I'm civil *naman* to them. Like, hi, hello, how are you. But I don't chat with them or even exchange pleasantries with them."

There is not one guy that he prefers for his mom, according to Oyo Boy. "Actually, she could be with anyone for as long as I see she's happy. *Basta* she's happy."

Oyo Boy's earliest memories of his father were of a man he and his sister Danica would visit during weekends.

"One time, I asked my mom who was the man we were visiting every Saturday," Oyo Boy said in Filipino. "She cried, and when I asked her why she was crying, she told me he was my dad. She cried because she felt bad that I didn't know he was my dad, and that I was not aware a child should have a dad."

Dina and Vic separated in June 1986. She raised her children single-handedly while shaping her career as an actress.

Getting to know stage

Oyo Boy described Dina as "*parang barkada* (one of the boys)."

"I am really very happy with her," he said. "My dad and I … we're only starting to get close to each other. It's only now that we're getting to know each other.

"I used to feel uncomfortable with him," Oyo Boy confided, "like I didn't really know him. So I really felt so uncomfortable with him. I felt this way because throughout my childhood I didn't know I was supposed to have a daddy, only a mommy."

In an earlier interview with Inquirer Entertainment, Dina revealed she insisted that Oyo Boy get to know his dad. She said she did this because there were things only a dad could teach his son.

Eventually, Oyo Boy and Vic bonded.

Oyo Boy claimed he did not look for a father figure. "It was like … that's what I'm thankful for to my mom. She really shouldered the responsibility of raising us—Danica and I—well."

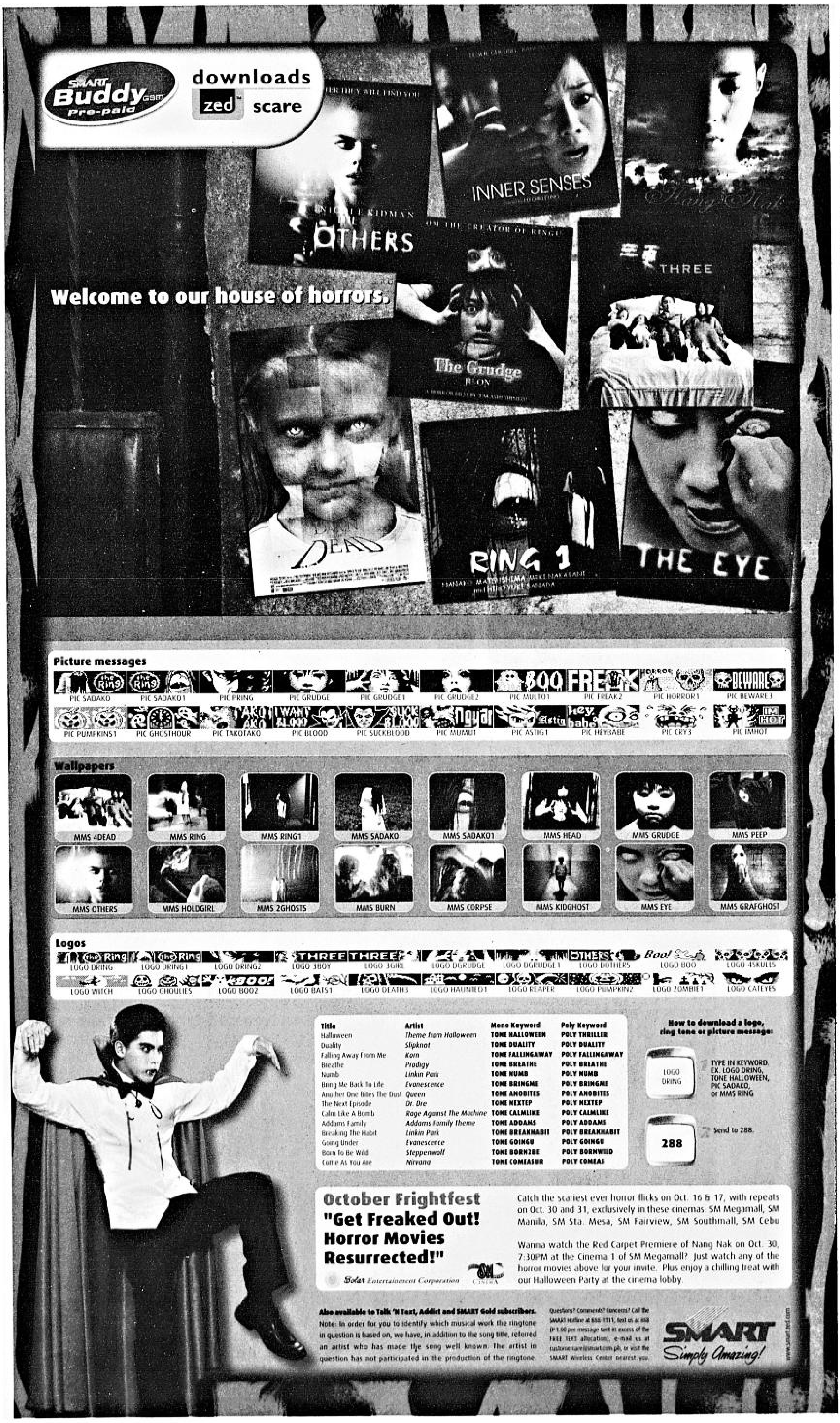
Was he affected that his dad had children by other women?

"At first, my sister and I were really affected," Oyo Boy said. "We actually talked about it, discussed it, like shouldn't there be just the two of us? How come we have other siblings?"

No confiding in Vic

He also admitted he was angry. "But when

OYO BOY/ A30



SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid
downloads
zed scare
THE OTHERS
INNER SENSES
Nang Nak
THE GRUDGE
THREE
DEAD
RING 1
THE EYE
Welcome to our house of horrors.

Picture messages

PIC SADAKO
PIC SADAKO1
PIC PRING
PIC GRUDGE
PIC GRUDGE1
PIC GRUDGE2
PIC MULTO1
PIC FREAK2
PIC HORROR1
PIC BEWARE3
PIC PUMPKINS1
PIC GHOSTHOUR
PIC TAKOTAKO
PIC BLOOD
PIC SUCKBLOOD
PIC MUMU1
PIC ASTIG1
PIC HEYBABE
PIC CRY3
PIC IMHOT

Wallpapers

MMS 4DEAD
MMS RING
MMS RING1
MMS SADAKO
MMS SADAKO1
MMS HEAD
MMS GRUDGE
MMS PEEP
MMS OTHERS
MMS HOLDGIRL
MMS 2GHOSTS
MMS BURN
MMS CORPSE
MMS KIDGHOST
MMS EYE
MMS GRAFGHOST

Logos

LOGO DRING
LOGO DRING1
LOGO DRING2
LOGO 3BOY
LOGO 3GIRL
LOGO DGRUDGE
LOGO DGRUDGE1
LOGO DOTHERS
LOGO BOO
LOGO 4SKULLS
LOGO WITCH
LOGO GHOULIES
LOGO BOO2
LOGO BATS1
LOGO DEATH3
LOGO HAUNTED1
LOGO REAPER
LOGO PUMPKIN2
LOGO ZOMBIE1
LOGO CATEYES

Title	Artist	Mono Keyword	Poly Keyword
Halloween	*Theme from Halloween*	TONE HALLOWEEN	POLY THRILLER
Duality	*Slipknot*	TONE DUALITY	POLY DUALITY
Falling Away From Me	*Korn*	TONE FALLINGAWAY	POLY FALLINGAWAY
Breathe	*Prodigy*	TONE BREATHE	POLY BREATHE
Numb	*Linkin Park*	TONE NUMB	POLY NUMB
Bring Me Back To Life	*Evanescence*	TONE BRINGME	POLY BRINGME
Another One Bites The Dust	*Queen*	TONE ANOBITES	POLY ANOBITES
The Next Episode	*Dr. Dre*	TONE NEXTEP	POLY NEXTEP
Calm Like A Bomb	*Rage Against The Machine*	TONE CALMLIKE	POLY CALMLIKE
Addams Family	*Addams Family Theme*	TONE ADDAMS	POLY ADDAMS
Breaking The Habit	*Linkin Park*	TONE BREAKHABIT	POLY BREAKHABIT
Going Under	*Evanescence*	TONE GOINGU	POLY GOINGU
Born To Be Wild	*Steppenwolf*	TONE BORN2BE	POLY BORNWILD
Come As You Are	*Nirvana*	TONE COMEASUR	POLY COMEAS

How to download a logo, ring tone or picture message:

1 TYPE IN KEYWORD. EX. LOGO DRING, TONE HALLOWEEN, PIC SADAKO, or MMS RING

2 Send to 288.

October Frightfest
"Get Freaked Out! Horror Movies Resurrected!"

Solar Entertainment Corporation SM Cinema

Catch the scariest ever horror flicks on Oct. 16 & 17, with repeats on Oct. 30 and 31, exclusively in these cinemas: SM Megamall, SM Manila, SM Sta. Mesa, SM Fairview, SM Southmall, SM Cebu

Wanna watch the Red Carpet Premiere of Nang Nak on Oct. 30, 7:30PM at the Cinema 1 of SM Megamall? Just watch any of the horror movies above for your invite. Plus enjoy a chilling treat with our Halloween Party at the cinema lobby.

Also available to Talk 'N Text, Addict and SMART Gold subscribers.

Note: In order for you to identify which musical work the ringtone in question is based on, we have, in addition to the song title, referred an artist who has made the song well known. The artist in question has not participated in the production of the ringtone.

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, text us at 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

SMART Simply Amazing!

www.smart.zed.com

BUSINESS
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net
Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma
Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

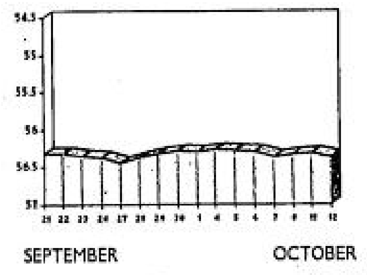
ACCENT·MICRO TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
DELL IBM
Your most reliable IT partner for Dell & IBM desktops, notebooks, servers & storage, as well as GE UPS systems.
ACCENT MICRO TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Gov't revives plan to sell TV stations

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



P 56.365=$ 1

As of 5 p.m., Oct. 12, 2004

Y 109.84=$ 1

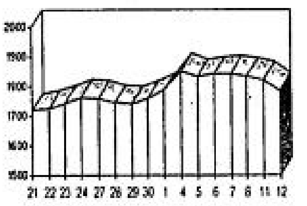
As of 5 p.m., Oct. 12, 2004

GOLD: $420.00-420.50

per ounce Hong Kong, Oct. 12, 2004

STOCK MARKET

Stocks end down



(See stock market report on Page B6)

STOCKS slumped in broad-based selling yesterday with telecom stocks and shares of property firm Metro Pacific Corp leading the decline.

But traders said buyers may emerge again as the market nears key support at 1,770 with signs pointing to sustained strong corporate profits for the rest of the year.

"We are nearing support, there may be a bounce tomorrow," said Allan Araullo, vice president at Regina Capital Development Corp.

The Philippine stock index lost 37.06 points or 2.03 percent to end at 1,784.91 points.

The market has lost 3.1 percent in the last three trading days to yesterday, but is still up 23.75 percent so far this year, making it one of the region's best performing markets.

The market hit its highest in more than four and a half years last week, supported by expectations of healthy corporate earnings in the second half, particularly for telecom firms, despite higher operating costs due to increases in oil and electricity prices.

Market turnover climbed to P927.26 million from Monday's P880.69 million.

Losers were in an eight-to-one majority but foreign brokerage houses were net buyers of P148.3 million, data from the stock exchange showed.

Metro Pacific, partly owned by First Pacific Co. Ltd., lost 11.54 percent or 6 centavos to 46 centavos.

The company said its Hong Kong-based parent has sold 3.12 percent of its stake in Metro Pacific from Sept. 11 to Oct. 11, with plans to sell another 1.88-percent stake to raise funds for the Philippine flagship.

"Because of the disclosure on First Pacific, people just wanted to get out," Regina's Araullo said, referring to the drop in Metro Pacific's shares.

Reuters

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance is reviving plans to sell state-owned television stations RPN Channel 9, IBC Channel 13, and NBN Channel 4 to help the cash-starved government raise more revenue and relieve itself of the financial burden caused by these losing media organizations.

"We need to take a look at these television stations, and how they can give value to the government. Currently they are not earning," Finance Undersecretary Eric Recto said in a briefing.

Recto, who acts as head of the DOF's privatization office, said the government's streamlining program should not only cover major government-owned and -controlled corporations, but also government-sequestered media outfits to fully attain the objective of helping the government rid itself of unnecessary expenditures.

The finance official said the DOF would propose to Malacañang the sale of the TV stations if its assessment would show that the government would be better off giving them up. He said that amid the country's fiscal problem, every bit of opportunity to raise revenue matters.

Recto said the DOF did not have readily available data on the financial performance of the television stations, but said that the amount of their losses could justify moves to sell them to any interested groups from the private sector.

"I think the government should be open to that idea (selling the TV stations) because it should be looking at a cost-effective manner of (disseminating government programs)," he said.

Recto made the comment after the publication of a recent study, which recommended that state-owned companies engaged in media production should be abolished because the government could still fulfill its objective of informing the public of its programs even without spending too much on operating TV stations.

The study, entitled "Towards Bureaucratic Reform: Issues and Challenges," said that aside from media organizations, state-owned firms engaged in postal services, management training, and home financing should be abolished because the private sector was already doing a good job in those areas.

It recommended the abolition and privatization of the Home Development Mutual Fund, Home Insurance and Guarantee Corp. and National Home Mortgage Finance Corp. It also recommended the consolidation of government financial institutions like Land Bank of the Philippines, Development Bank of the Philippines, Al-Amanah Islamic Investment Bank of the Philippines, the Government Service Insurance System and the Social Security System.

The study also suggested the consolidation of the Philippine Tourism Authority, Philippine Convention and Visitors Corp. and the Nayong Pilipino Foundation under the Department of Trade and Industry. The Quedan

GOV'T/ B3

SMC to relaunch Magnolia ice cream

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

FOOD and beverage conglomerate San Miguel Corp. (SMC) is investing more than P1 billion to build a multi-product industrial park in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, and help it kick-start its re-entry into the ice cream business after a five-year absence.

The industrial park will house manufacturing and packaging plants primed for new products that SMC is set to roll out next year.

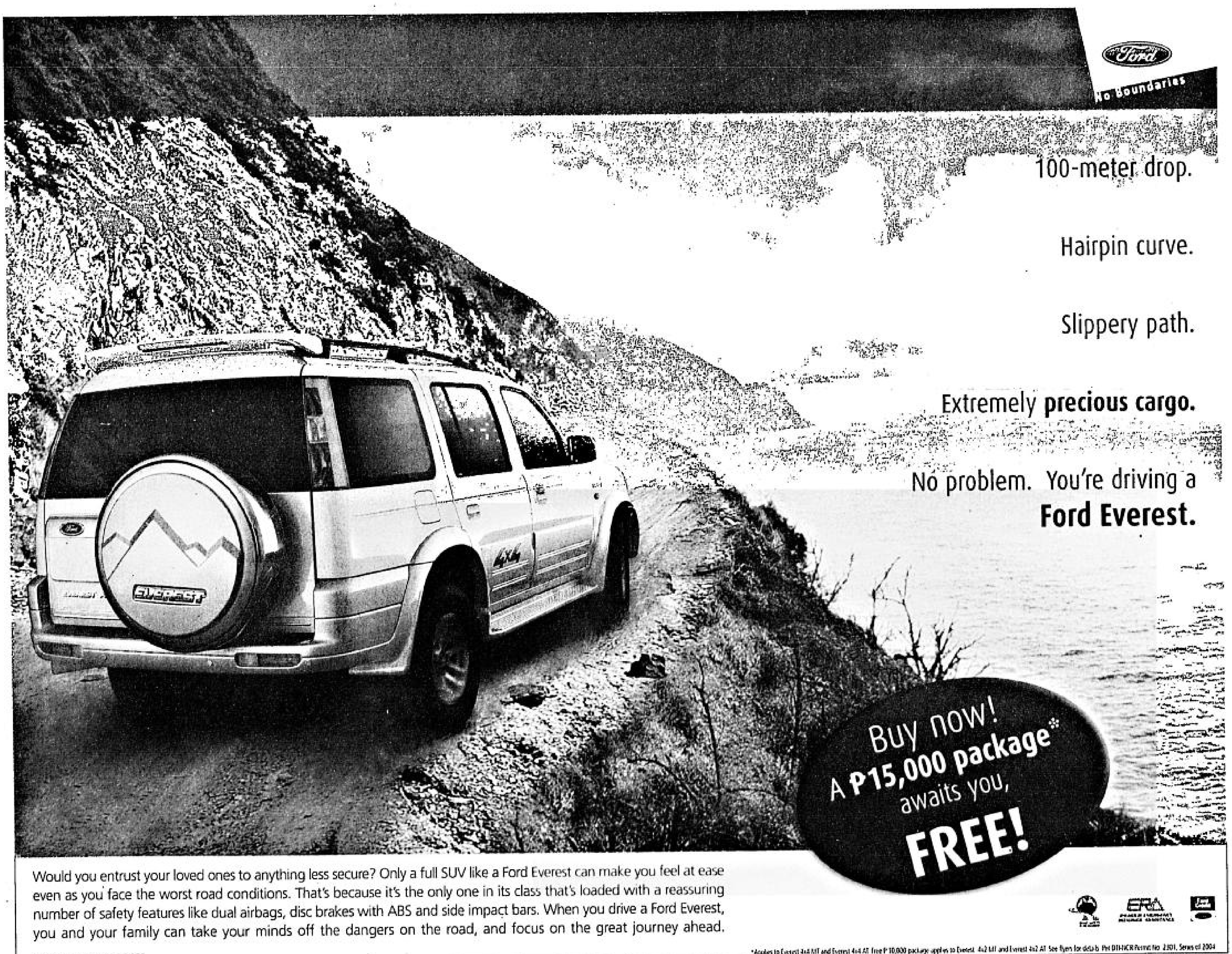
SMC is also relaunching its Magnolia ice cream brand, one of the most recognizable and enduring brands in the Philippines, in response to public demand.

Nestlé S.A. of Switzerland and SMC used to have a joint-venture company, Nestle Philippines Inc. When SMC sold its 45-percent stake in Nestlé Philippines to Nestlé S.A., the terms of the sale included a non-compete clause that prevented SMC from entering into the ice cream business for five years. The non-compete clause expired last year.

SMC/ B5

National Transmission Corporation
YAS TRANSMISSION PROJECT

CLEAN ENERGY FOR BOHOL. President Macapagal-Arroyo recently inaugurated the Leyte-Bohol Interconnection project of the National Transmission Corp. in Ubay town. The completion of the P700 million link-up will make Bohol's power resources wholly renewable and sustainable in support of the protection of its wildlife and environment. With the President are, from left: Ubay Mayor Eutiquio Bernales, Transco president Alan Ortiz, Bohol Governor Erico Aumentado, Energy Secretary Vincent Perez and Bohol Rep. Roberto Cajes.


Ford
No Boundaries
100-meter drop.
Hairpin curve.
Slippery path.
Extremely precious cargo.
No problem. You're driving a Ford Everest.
Buy now! A ₱15,000 package* awaits you, FREE!
EVEREST

Would you entrust your loved ones to anything less secure? Only a full SUV like a Ford Everest can make you feel at ease even as you face the worst road conditions. That's because it's the only one in its class that's loaded with a reassuring number of safety features like dual airbags, disc brakes with ABS and side impact bars. When you drive a Ford Everest, you and your family can take your minds off the dangers on the road, and focus on the great journey ahead.

Prices start at ₱1,025,000

*Applies to Everest 4x4 MT and Everest 4x4 AT. Free ₱10,000 package applies to Everest 4x2 MT and Everest 4x2 AT. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2301, Series of 2004

www.ford.com.ph

• Ford Alabang, Trunk lines: 842-3681 / 842-4628, Fax No. 807-4430 • Ford Balintawak, Trunk Line 927-9648, Fax No. 927-5981 • Ford Commonwealth, Tel. Nos. 952-9118, 952-9441, 952-9446 Fax No. 952-9440 • Ford EDSA, Tel. No. 744-2222, Fax No. 723-6311 • Ford EDSA Service Center Tel. No. 723-7029 • Ford Libis, Trunk Line: 637-2044, Fax No. 637-6008 • Ford Makati, Trunk Line: 818-5555, Fax No. 815-0513
• Ford Manila, Tel. No. 562-5555 Fax No. 562-8985 • Ford Quezon Avenue, Tel. Nos. 731-2617 / 742-3435 / 742-3436 Fax. 742-3451 • Ford Shaw Blvd., Trunk Line 717-0888, Telefax 717-1390 • Ford Pampanga, Trunk Line (045) 961-2888, Fax Nos. (045) 963-5205 / 961-2277 • Ford Cabanatuan, Tel. No. (044) 464-0111, Fax No. (044) 600-4200 • Ford Dagupan, Tel. No. (075) 522-2222, Telefax (075) 515-5520
• Ford San Pablo, Tel. No. (049) 562-9186, Telefax (049) 562-8324 • Ford Cavite, Tel. No. (046) 472-2040; Fax. (046) 472-2048 • Ford Cebu, Trunk Line (032) 231-9180; Fax No. (032) 231-9023 • Ford Bacolod, Tel No. (034) 432-2951, Telefax (034) 434-2877 • Ford Iloilo, Tel. No. (033) 321-3352, Telefax No. (033) 321-3351 • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Tel. Nos. (088) 855-8811, Telefax (088) 855-8877 • Ford Davao, Tel. No. (082) 234-1111, Fax No. (082) 234-2222

PSALM: Transco contract to undergo public, not negotiated, bidding

By Abigail L. Ho

THE POWER Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (PSALM) has scrapped the negotiated bidding scheme for the National Transmission Corp. (Transco) concession, opting instead for the traditional public auction.

Vincent Perez, Energy secretary and PSALM vice chair, said the government had decided to do away with the negotiated bidding procedure as the proposals submitted by the four potential investors were "highly unique and complex."

The diverse submissions, he said, made it difficult for PSALM to evaluate which offer was the best as all four of them contained unique qualities that made comparisons based on pricing alone nearly impossible.

"The four terms of offers were so different," Perez yesterday said. "We can't compare the prices (with each other) because they may have been associated with certain terms and conditions (not present in other bids)."

With this decision, all discussions with the four interested consortia had been terminated, he added.

A public auction, he said, would be the best way to auction off the Transco concession as bidders would then be judged using common terms and conditions.

At the same time, Perez said this method would also be better for all the interested investors as it would allow them equal opportunity to bid for the 25-year concession contract.

"It's good that they still have a chance to bid," he said. "If we went through with the negotiated bidding, we would have just chosen only one (entity to negotiate with)."

Perez also said that no legal opinion, particularly one from the Department of Justice, influenced PSALM's decision to revert to a public auction. He explained that the decision came about due to the diversity of the offers for the concession.

PSALM president Raphael Lotilla said in an earlier interview that a DOJ opinion had to be secured before any formal negotiations could take place to ensure that no legal hurdles would be encountered in the middle of formal talks.

The Office of the Government Corporate Counsel earlier approved a negotiated bidding for the Transco concession after auctions conducted in July and August last year failed due to the presence of only one bidder, Singapore Power Ltd., both times.

Despite the change in bidding methodology, Perez said PSALM was still confident of meeting the December 2004 target for awarding the contract to the winning concessionaire.

DRYERS
Megasun Grain Dryer
Available in 6 tons and up capacity
Imported from Taiwan
Also available
2nd Hand Grain Dryers and brand new FOOD GRADE DRYERS
Multi-Purpose Flat-Bed Dryer
Capacity: 1.8 tons
Motor: 2 HP, 220 V
Also available: Conveyors
For all types of grain— palay, corn, coffee, beans, mushroom, kropek, peanut, chicharon, garlic, meal, fish, potato, tobacco, chicken manure, bamboo ware, herb, foods, etc
For inquiries, pls. call: (02) 838-9032 / 838-0626
MABUHAY 2000 ENTERPRISES, INC.

BEDRIDDEN WITH BEDSORES?
- Totally eliminates bedsores
- No need to turn patient as pad alternately inflates & deflates every 5 minutes
- Relieves pressure on patients back
- Made in Europe

FLY PAD
ALSO AVAILABLE: MEDICAL BED • SORE PATCHES
STAR MILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor 45-636-3513
SM MANILA 5TH FLR. 484-1471
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr. Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-75-40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 15-65
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
CEBU 417-82-86

RATE HIKE AT 7%

Palace to issue EO raising steel tariffs

By Ronnel W. Domingo

MALACAÑANG is expected to issue next week an executive order raising tariffs on steel products to 7 percent. The decision came after the Cabinet-level committee on tariff related matters yesterday approved the new rates, according to sources.

The increase in tariffs would apply to hot-rolled coils and cold-rolled coils, while tariffs on tin plates would remain at zero within Southeast Asia and 3 percent from outside the region.

Hot-rolled and cold-rolled steel coils, used to make a wide array of steel products like bars and sheets, are currently under a 3-percent tariff scheme. There is no import duty for tin plates, used for packaging of foodstuff, paint and other products.

The executive order allowing the new rates is supposed to help the new owners of the National Steel Corp., while it recognizes the petition of tin can makers for a status quo on tariffs, sources said.

But officials of Global Steelworks International Inc. (GSII) are "not aware of any decision regarding steel tariff adjustments," said Sushant C. Das, president of the company.

Das in a statement said that "any rumors coming from unnamed sources are pure speculations and hence unfair to all parties concerned."

GSII early this year wanted a 35-percent duty imposed on all imported steel products except slabs, which it wanted to bring in from an affiliate firm in India.

Sensing strong opposition to the proposal, the GSII officials later said they were amenable to tariffs of between 20 percent and 30 percent.

GSII, a unit of the Indian-owned Ispat Industries, acquired the Iligan steel mill for P13.25 billion. It recently completed a P1-billion down payment after a long drawn-out process.

Members of the Tin Can Manufacturers Association of the Philippines Inc. last week feared that Malacañang, amid rising world prices, might issue an order to raise tariffs on tin plates while Congress is in recess.

TCMAPI groups 18 companies which account for about 70 percent of all tin plates used in the country.

The bulk of the country's tin imports come from Japan and South Korea, and the rest from Australia and South Africa.

Henry A. Tañedo, president and chair of TCMAPI, said that it would be better for the local industry as well as for consumers to maintain tariffs at zero.

Tañedo said the cost of imported tin plates had gone up by about $300 per metric ton between January and August this year.

He said local tin can makers have agreed to freeze their prices until November to help avert increased prices of canned goods.

On Monday, administration Rep. Alipio Cirilo Badelles said raising tariffs on tin plates by 10 percent could yield P5 billion in additional government revenue.

Acer recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional.

Power Notebooks on the Run

intel inside centrino MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

Write Where You Want It!

Travel Mate 3202XCi
Latchless design, non-slip

Travel Mate C112TCi
Convertible

Aspire 1681WLMi
Fresh, Feature-Rich

Acer proudly presents its new notebooks powered by new generation Intel® Centrino™ mobile technology (Dothan processor 2MB L2Cache) for that perfect balance of power-packed performance and wireless mobility... anytime, anywhere.

Travel Mate 3202XCi	Travel Mate C112TCi	Aspire 1681WLMi
• Microsoft® Windows® XP Home • Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology * Intel® Pentium M Processor 725 (1.6GHz, 2MB L2 Cache, 400MHz FSB) * Intel 855 GME chipset * Integrated Intel PRO Wireless 2200 (802.11b/g) (up to 54 Mbps wireless connectivity) • Supports Acer SignalUp Technology • ATI® Mobility™ Radeon™ 9700 (64MB) • 512MB DDR RAM/60 GB HDD • 14.1" XGA TFT LCD • Integrated 8x DVD + 24x CDRW Combo Drive • 3-in-1 Media Card Reader (MMC,SD,MS) • High Speed USB 2.0 ports x2 Built-in 56kbps fax/modem/10/100/1000 Gigabit LAN • Li-Ion battery • Acer carrying case	• Microsoft® Windows® XP Tablet PC Edition • Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology *Ultra Low Voltage Intel® Pentium® M processor 733 (1.1 GHz, 2 MB L2 cache, 400 MHz FSB) *Intel® 855GM Chipset *Integrated Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200 (802.11b/g) (up to 54 Mbps wireless connectivity) • 512MB DDR RAM / 60GB HDD w/ DASP • 10.4" TFT LCD Supporting EMR Pen-based Input • DVD/CDRW External Combo Drive • Integrated 3D VGA w/ DVMT Technology • 10/100Mbps Ethernet / Wake-on-LAN ready • Integrated Bluetooth™ • Acer carrying case	• Microsoft® Windows® XP Home • Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology *Intel® Pentium® M Processor 715 (1.5GHz, 2MB L2 Cache, 400MHz FSB) *Intel® 855GME chipset *Integrated Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200 (802.11b/g) (up to 54 Mbps wireless connectivity) • Supports Acer SignalUp Technology • ATI® MOBILITY™ RADEON™ 9700 (64MB) • 512MB DDR RAM / 60GB HDD • 15.4" WXGA TFT LCD • Integrated DVD Dual Drive (+/-) • 3-in-1 Media Card Reader (MMC, SD, MS) • Integrated Bluetooth™ • 56Kbps fax / modem / 10/100Mbps Ethernet • Li-Ion Battery (up to 5 hrs. battery life) • Acer carrying case
P 102,000.00	P 132,000.00	P 108,000.00

Simply the best ...ONLY FROM ACER!

Inquire here ACER HOTLINE 815-3388
www.acer.com.ph
1 Year International Limited Warranty
Price quoted is on a cash basis only. VAT inclusive.
REF NO. 100804

acer Empowering People

Intel, the Intel logo, Intel Inside, the Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, the Intel Centrino logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries.

Exporters get ₱14-M grant to tap e-trade

LOCAL exporters as well as small and medium businesses have just received a P14-million reason why they need to tap the Internet and e-commerce to gain markets.

The government recently launched the Information Access Center (IAC) through a P13.9-million grant from the Korea Agency for Digital Opportunity and Promotion (Kado) of South Korea.

The IAC is a facility designed to support information technology development in the Philippines through continuous education of exporters and SME operators, as well as students and employees in the public and private sectors.

"Our SMEs and exporters should keep on improving themselves and (keep in mind) how the latest technologies can be of help," Trade Secretary Cesar V. Purisima said. "With the trend of global and borderless trading, SMEs have to keep on reinventing themselves if they would achieve long-term competitiveness."

The official said the availability of e-commerce infrastructure in the country should provide opportunities for such businesses to expand the base of their products and services.

Run and managed by the Philippine Trade Training Center, the IAC houses an Internet plaza, a computer education room, a seminar room and a management office.

Kado has also extended similar grants to other developing countries like Egypt, Cambodia, Romania and Vietnam.

Also yesterday, the Exports Development Council conferred the 2003 Top Export Performers Award to 43 companies that were able to gain export revenues ranging between $100 million and $1 billion, as well as to the top 10 exporting firms in various sectors.

Intel Technology Philippines Inc., Texas Instruments Philippines Inc., Amkor Anam Advanced Packaging Inc. and Toshiba Information Equipment Philippines Inc. were among those who posted $1 billion in receipts last year.

Purisima commended the exporters for their performance despite a difficult year.

In 2003, the country posted export receipts totaling $36.2 billion. *Ronnel W. Domingo*

KEEP YOUR FOOD FRESH!
Visit our new showroom. Equipments at affordable prices!
www.rueyshing.com
FREE Service Warranty Factory Priced
IMPORTED FROM TAIWAN
All stocks available!
WALK-IN COLD STORAGE
OPEN SHOWCASE
MOBILE REFRIGERATOR 402/602/5002/1302
THREE-DOOR SHOWCASE
DISPLAY FREEZER
CHEST FREEZER
REACH-IN REFRIGERATOR/ FREEZER
CONFECTIONARY SHOWCASE
ISLAND SHOWCASE
瑞興冷凍設備公司 RUEY SHING REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT
• 1706 E. Rodriguez Ave. Cor. Los Angeles St., Cubao, QC Tels.: 411-4232 to 33 • 727-9652 • 727-9648 • 724-1135 Fax: 411-4456
• Door # 3 - Adolfo Fick Bldg., Hernan Cortez Mandaue City, Cebu 6014 Tels.: (032) 343-8350 • (032) 422-7633 • (032) 343-8350

PBCom sells ₱12.6B in NPAs

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE PHILIPPINE Bank of Communications (PBCom) has completed the sale of P12.16 billion worth of bad loans and idle property to a special purpose company.

The non-performing assets were sold to Unimark Investments Corp., PBCom said in a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange.

Unimark is led by Filipino-Chinese businessman Robin Sy.

The special purpose vehicle (SPV) is capitalized at P2 billion, the highest among SPVs registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Retiring PBCom president Isidro Alcantara Jr. told the INQUIRER that the bank had P15 billion worth of NPAs.

The remaining NPAs would be disposed off according to an alternative rehabilitation plan to be submitted to the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

The SPV Law, which took effect in 2002, intends to help banks get rid of their NPAs by waiving some of the taxes and reducing fees usually collected from the sale or transfer of assets.

Joaquin Cunanan-KPMG helped PBCom sell the assets to shore up the bank's finances.

PBCom earlier forged a P10.6-billion rehabilitation deal with PDIC.

Under the agreement, shareholders will infuse an additional P3 billion, while the PDIC will extend P7.6 billion in financial assistance.

The bank's three major stockholders are the Luy (37 percent), Nubla (28 percent) and Chung (26 percent) families.

The PDIC assistance will cover losses to be incurred from the sale of bad assets at just 20 percent of the market value.

PBCom expects to post an income of at least P200 million this year, following the implementation of the rehabilitation program.

Gov't. . .

From page B1

and Rural Credit Guarantee Corp., Small Business Guarantee and Finance Corp., and the Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium Enterprises should likewise be consolidated, the study added.

Currently, the government's economic team headed by the Department of Budget and Management is studying the financial performance of 15 GOCCs for possible dissolution. The move came after state-owned companies, especially heavily losing ones, were criticized for paying their executives fat salaries while aggravating the national government's fiscal problem.

PSBank Prime TIME DEPOSIT
✓ 9% interest p.a. - GUARANTEED
✓ No withholding tax
✓ Only P50,000 minimum deposit
✓ 5 - year Time Deposit
✓ Monthly crediting of interest
Visit any of our 121 PSBank branches nationwide.
BancNet Member of the PDIC. Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor P250,000.00
Quoted rate is for a limited time only and is subject to change without prior notice.

Mystical India
Includes:
Round-trip Economy Class Ticket via Bangkok
Full board & Free overnight stay in Bangkok
Other tours to Nepal also available

Delhi - Srinagar	Mumbai - Cochin - Kumarakom	Mumbai - Goa	Delhi - Agra - Jaipur
US$1421*	US$1916*	US$1764*	US$1298*
8D/7N Srinagar: Paradise on Earth	7D/6N Rejuvenating Experience	7D/6N Christian Heritage	8D/7N Golden Panorama
Enjoy the Shikara ride in Nagin Lake and experience a 2 night stay at the Houseboat	Rejuvenate your body, mind and soul through Ayurvedic massage	Visit the Gothic Church - Basilica of Bom Jesus to see the mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier	Experience the fabled "Pink" City that is the theme of this complex land - Delhi, Agra and Jaipur

* All rates effective October 2004, per person on twin-sharing, min. 2 paxs required • Price is not valid for Christmas and New Year (surcharge applies)

Please contact our Consortium Agents for travel dates

MANILA

BTI Philippines Marsman	8885800
Far Travel Inc.	7511425
Filman Travel Center Inc.	2457087
Forefront Tours & Cruises	9264607
Fortune Travel	2422845/46
Multi-Destination Inc.	5268451
Pan Pacific Travel Corp.	2436666-81
Philscan Travel & Tours	8166486
Rajah Travel Ermita	5238801-07
Trader's Travel Corp.	2415101-06
Travel Carousel, Inc.	6605989
Traveller's Choice Corp.	7331414
Uni-Orient Travel	2433888
Union Travel & Tours	5243943/44

CEBU

Cebu Fortune Travel	2342151
Pan Pacific Travel Corp.	2540343
Uni-Orient Travel & Tours	2531866-69
Worldwide Travel & Tours	2551443

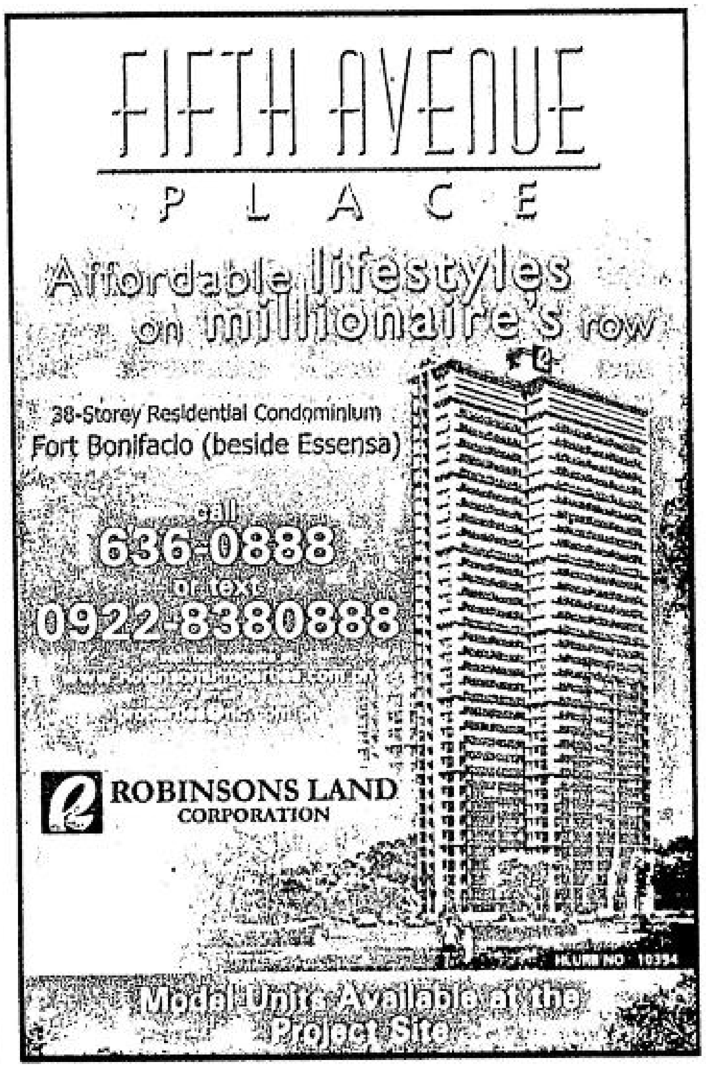
ANGELES

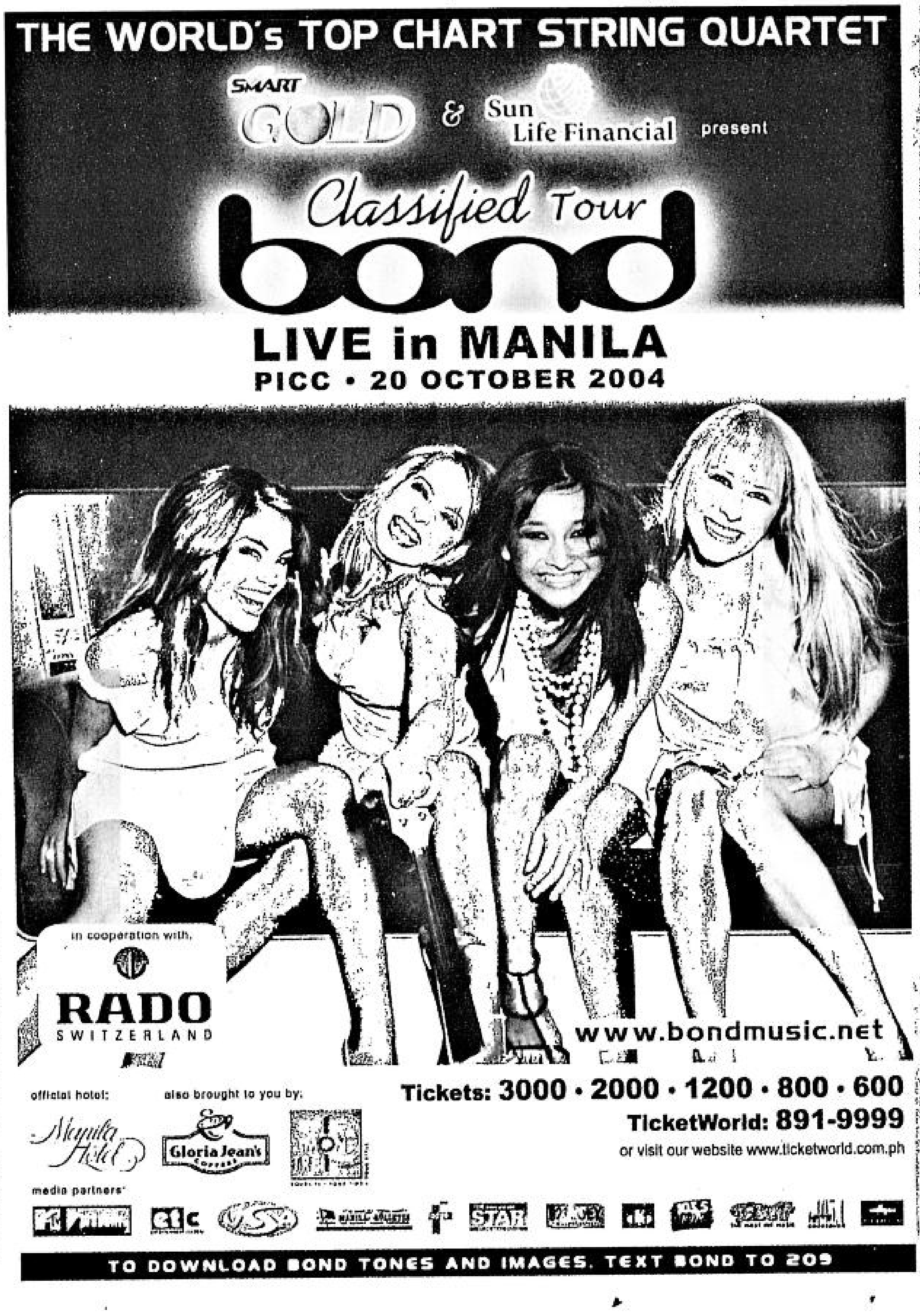
Angeles Int'l. Travel Center	045 3225929

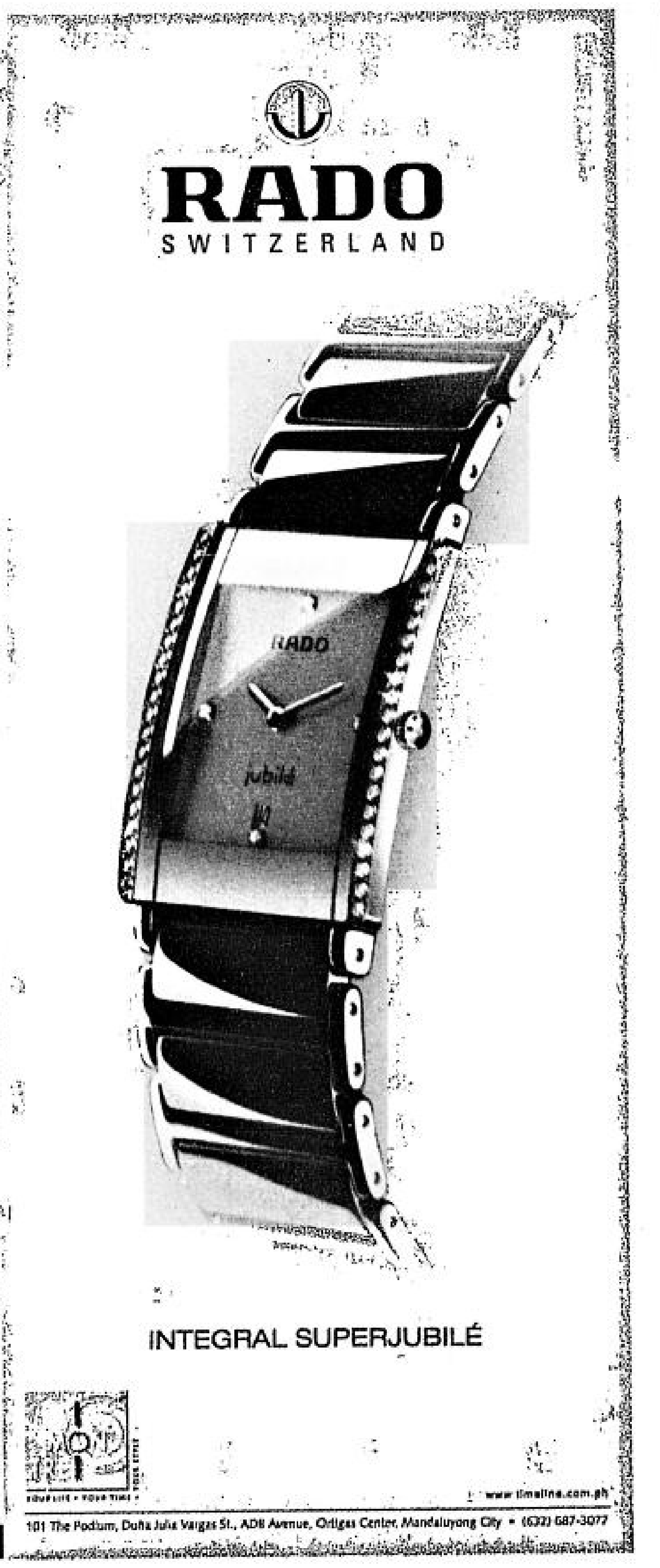
SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

Amigo Travel	033 3372839
Bohol Travel	038 4113840
Lopues Travel	034 4411878
Orientwind Travel	035 2251651
Titan Travel	088 8561997
Trans Air Travel	082 2213911

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER | Thai


FIFTH AVENUE PLACE
Affordable lifestyles on millionaire's row
38-Storey Residential Condominium
Fort Bonifacio (beside Essensa)
call 636-0888
or text 0922-8380888
ROBINSONS LAND CORPORATION
HLURB NO. 10394
Model Units Available at the Project Site


THE WORLD's TOP CHART STRING QUARTET
SMART GOLD & Sun Life Financial present
Classified Tour
bond
LIVE in MANILA
PICC • 20 OCTOBER 2004
in cooperation with:
RADO SWITZERLAND
www.bondmusic.net
official hotel: Manila Hotel
also brought to you by: Gloria Jean's Coffees
media partners
Tickets: 3000 • 2000 • 1200 • 800 • 600
TicketWorld: 891-9999
or visit our website www.ticketworld.com.ph
TO DOWNLOAD BOND TONES AND IMAGES, TEXT BOND TO 209


RADO SWITZERLAND
INTEGRAL SUPERJUBILÉ
www.timeline.com.ph
101 The Podium, Doña Julia Vargas St., ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City • (632) 687-3077

CIRCLE ON CAVILL

No. 1 Investment Property.
Uninterrupted ocean view right in the heart of Surfers Paradise. Exceptionally high rental income thru holiday letting.

ONLY 10% DOWN (CASH, CHECK OR BANK GUARANTEE) INTO AN INTEREST BEARING ESCROW ACCOUNT. NO FURTHER PAYMENT UNTIL COMPLETION IN 2007. EASY FINANCING AVAILABLE. MORE THAN 20% GROWTH P.A.

This extraordinary house & lot at Australia's beautiful Gold Coast could be yours for only US$ 299,000

THE VENEZIA
Lot Area – 600m²; Floor Area – 256m²; Including landscaping, fence; Complete kitchen with dishwasher, cooking top, wall mounted oven, incinerator; Venetians; Double lock garage with remote control.

Over 40 more house types to choose from. Buy directly from the developer.

For further information visit us from Monday to Saturday, Ground Floor, Fortune Bldg., 160 Legaspi St., Makati City

REAL ESTATE IN AUSTRALIA INFO CENTER
Tel. (02) 848.0659 / 0660 Email: reiainfocenter@pldtdsl.net
www.realestateinaustralia.com.au

Oil firms explain price hikes

By Abigail L. Ho

LOCAL oil companies said they had to raise the prices of gasoline, even as they were breaking even or posting some profits from the sale of this product, to cover for their under-recoveries in diesel.

They said they were constrained to raise the pump prices of diesel, considered a "socially sensitive" product, as this would affect the commuting public. Most public vehicles, such as buses and jeepneys, use diesel.

Roberto Kanapi, general manager for external affairs of oil refiner Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., said the oil company had to shoulder the increases in the cost of diesel in the previous months as it could not immediately pass on to consumers the high international costs of the product.

"Our under-recoveries in diesel is substantial but we can't just raise the price because of the social implications of doing so," he said in a telephone interview yesterday. "What we're doing now is cross-subsidizing these products, which is why we increased the prices of gasoline."

Fernando Martinez, chair of new oil players organization Independent Philippine Petroleum Companies Association, said the under-recoveries in diesel of the members of his group had already surpassed the P2-a-liter mark, yet no corresponding price increases could be implemented.

He said that with more Filipino motorists using diesel-run vehicles, as compared with those using gasoline-fueled vehicles, made the cost burden heavier for the local oil companies.

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez on Monday asked oil firms to explain their decision to raise gasoline prices by 35 centavos a liter, even as, according to the Department of Energy's own monitoring, the oil firms were either breaking even or actually posting profits on gasoline.

But Kanapi said the DOE must have based its calculations only on the costs of unleaded gasoline in the world market in relation with local pump prices, and did not consider other price factors such as working capital and other expenses.

Group offers to supply power to MRT, LRT lines

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE DEPARTMENT of Transportation has received an unsolicited offer from a local group to build and operate a small power plant that will supply power to the mass transit system in Metro Manila.

The proposed plant, to be built by Chase Power Management Inc., was estimated to cost more than $15 million.

The department had asked Manila Electric Co. to provide a 15-percent discount on the power purchases of state-run Metro Rail Transit 3 and the Light Railway Transit Authority. But Meralco had turned down the request.

Transport Assistant Secretary Roberto Castañares said the agency was expecting to receive offers from other power producers.

Chase Power had offered to build a 17.4-megawatt plant. Castañares said there was no project cost mentioned in the proposal but based on a rule-of-thumb, every megawatt of power would require an investment of about $1 million.

In its website, Chase Power said it was offering "turnkey co-generation power plants with structured finance."

Castañares said any unsolicited offer would have to be subjected to a Swiss challenge where other interested parties would be allowed to bid. The original proponent would be allowed to match the best offer.

Power accounts for about 30 percent of the railway system's cost of operations.

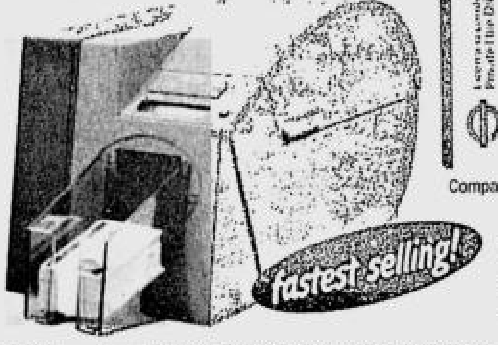
"Initially, the plan was to get an IPP to produce power for MRT 3. But the final project may eventually include LRT Line 1 and 2," said the transport official.

Castañares said the agency was aggressively looking for ways to cut costs in operating the mass transit railway in the metropolis amid rising prices of fuel and power.

The government provides about P60 to P80 million in monthly subsidy to MRT alone.

The MRT 3 and the LRTA are awaiting Malacañang's approval of a P10 fare hike to help both agencies shoulder the increasing cost of operations.

MRT 3 operates the MetroStar Express and pays a monthly lease to the private consortium called Metro Rail Transit Corp.



Panalo ka sa kakaibang negosyong ito!

JAVELIN
Puts you in the ID card-printing business fast

Everybody needs ID Cards

Company/School ID | Privilege/Gift card | Club Membership card | Security/Smart card | Photo card | Concert ticket

fastest selling!

Here's a sure fire business opportunity because every school... business... bank... government office... club... social organization... In short, EVERYWHERE ID cards are mandatory in today's world.

Exclusive Distributor:
Tgraf TEAM GRAPHICS
Tel: 723-0601 to 10, 726-3991 to 98
Fax: 723-7951
Email: inquire@tgraf.com.ph
www.tgraf.com.ph

Other Tgraf business packages include: Xerox Phaser for Print-on-Demand, Roland Cutters for signmaking, Roland Versacamm for labels and stickers, Roland Soljet for banners and billboards, Ward Studio digital photo enlargements for photographers, and more. Call us NOW and put yourself in a fresh, new business!

WOW Manila! Philippines 2004

The 7th
ECR ASIA CONFERENCE
Philippine International Convention Center Manila October 27-29, 2004

DELIGHTING THE ASIAN CONSUMER

ECR Asia

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS
Mr. Patrick Mutchler, Johnson & Johnson Company Group Chairman
Mr. Seung-Han Lee, Samsung TESCO President
AC Nielsen and Accenture
manufacturing and retailing operations
Launching of IBM's research paper
A cross-sectoral panel discussion of regional CEOs

DELIGHT THE CONSUMER!

FOR FREE ENTRANCE TO THE EXHIBIT CALL : (632) 897-5011 to 14

For more information on the conference and to register, visit our website: **www.ecrphils.com**
or email us at : ecrphils@creative-synergy.com

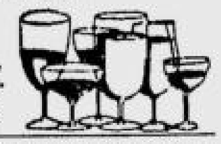
Co-presentor : accenture High performance. Delivered.
Platinum : IBM Nestlé P&G San Miguel Corporation Unilever
Gold : Aboitiz Transport System ACNielsen Colgate-Palmolive DKSH Market Intelligence IDS Logistics Kraft Kraft Foods Johnson & Johnson (Philippines) Inc. LOSCAM SAP UNIONBANK
Silver : empower your brands CAS
Official Daily Newspaper: INQUIRER
Official International Publication
Official Radio Station: 105.1
Room Sponsor: The Gillette Company
Projection Systems Provider: MICRODATA
Official Telecom Partner: DSL

Exhibitors :
ABOITIZ TRANSPORT SYSTEM • ACCENTURE • AC NIELSEN PHILIPPINES, INC • BANCO DE ORO UNIVERSAL BANK
CAS SYSTEM OF ASIA PACIFIC, PTE. LTD • COLGATE-PALMOLIVE • DIETHELM PHILIPPINES, INC • E-COMMERCE PHILS., INC.
ECR ASIA • ECR PHILIPPINES • FAST LOGISTICS • GLOBEQUEST • HKANA • IBM • IDS LOGISTICS (PHILIPPINES), INC
JOHNSON & JOHNSON (PHILS.), INC. • KRAFT FOODS PHILS., INC • LOSCAM (PHILIPPINES), INC • NESTLE PHILIPPINES, INC.
PRIME SALES INC. • PROCTER & GAMBLE • RIPPLE E-BUSINESS INT'L. INC. • SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION-CKAG • SAP ASIA
SMART WAREHOUSING SOLUTIONS • UNILEVER PHILIPPINES, INC. • UNIONBANK OF THE PHILIPPINES

Other Sponsors :
COLGATE-PALMOLIVE • DEL MONTE PHILIPPINES • KRAFT FOODS PHILS INC • PHILIPPINE AIRLINES • STERLING PAPER
SUPPLY CHAIN NETWORKS, INC. • UNIVERSAL ROBINA CORPORATION

MPC's shock value

COCKTALES



Victor C. Agustin

PUNTERS' favorite Metro Pacific Corp. saw its share price tumble yesterday to 46 centavos from the previous day's 52 after the parent company, First Pacific of Hong Kong, announced that it was midway to unloading about 5 percent of its listed local holding company.

MPC spokesperson David Nugent said the company shares were sold at the 50-52 centavo range—way off its recent high of 63 centavos—providing for the first time an in-house benchmark as to how the turnaround company should be valued.

One brokerage official, however, placed the unloaded MPC block at a much higher average price of P0.5501 per share.

The First Pacific announcement said that a total of 581.1 million shares of MPC, or about 3.12 percent of MPC's total issued capital, had been sold in tranches in one month up to Monday; moreover, the HK parent intends to sell, "subject to market conditions prevailing from time to time," an additional 349.1 million shares, representing 1.88 percent of MPC.

Nugent confirmed market rumors that it was mainly Credit Lyonnais "plus others" that had been unloading the MPC shares on behalf of First Pacific.

Assuming a low of 50 centavos per share, First Pacific has raised at least P290.55 million from the stock sale, money that it said it would use to support subsidiary Negros Navigation's rehabilitation plus other "general corporate requirements" of MPC.

The announcement shocked not a few brokers, who expressed annoyance that MPC was in effect telegraphing its moves to dump more shares on the market.

But Nugent said MPC had no choice but to disclose even midway through its selling exercise to comply with a market regulation requiring listed companies to disclose their previous month's transactions every 10th of the next month.

After the 5-percent block shall have been unloaded, First Pacific would still have about 75 percent beneficial shareholdings over MPC, according to a market source.

Doctors get haircut

THE GOOD news is that Asian Hospital and Medical Center is finally getting recapitalized.

The bad news is that all the shareholders have first to agree—to which they all did—to reduce the hospital's present capitalization by 70.4 percent to reflect past losses before the infusion of new money from the white knight, the Bumrungrad group of Bangkok.

That, in essence, is the financial restructuring plan submitted by the Alabang medical facility to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Under the plan, Insular Life's original 232.09 millions shares have been reduced to only about 68.7 million shares, Filinvest's more than 139.4 million shares are now down to a little over 41.2 million, and chair Jorge Garcia's 165.6 million, now whittled down to about 49.02 million.

The small shareholders, mainly doctors, who invested P1 million for 1 million shares in 1997 saw their stake correspondingly shrink to only P296,000 worth of shares.

Good news, bad news

- DEVELOPER Andrew Tan, who was cited only yesterday by Quezon City Hall as businessman of the year for transforming a shuttered textile factory complex into what is now known as Eastwood City, has been chosen by the Philippine Marketing Association to receive its 2004 Agora award.
- FORMER AIM president Felipe Alfonso has resigned from the board of Metrobank.
- THE local unit of Publicis Zenith Optimedia stands to lose the P1.4-billion-a-year Nestle media account after the Vevey headquarters of the Swiss food giant transferred the worldwide account to WPP MindShare. Out of that multibillion-peso pie, the local media buying agency actually gets only about 2-2.5 percent cut, or about P24-30 million, for its services.

Heard through the grapevine

AL Santos, the husband of Cinderella's Thérèse Coronel-Santos, is being tipped as the next president of the Bases Conversion Development Authority. Santos is said to enjoy the backing of no less than Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com)

FirstPac to sell 5% stake in MPC

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

HONG KONG conglomerate First Pacific Co. Ltd. said it plans to sell up to 5 percent of its shares in local holding firm Metro Pacific Corp. (MPC) to partially raise funds for the rehabilitation of MPC's inter-island shipping firm Negros Navigation Co. (Nenaco) and provide additional cash for MPC's business plans.

MPC vice president David Nugent said First Pacific reiterated its commitment to MPC and its desire to give its subsidiary financial muscle to pursue its business plans and recovery programs.

First Pacific had sold 3.12 percent in MPC or 581.1 million from Sept. 13 to Oct. 11 in the open market out of MPC's total 18.6 billion outstanding shares.

Nugent told the INQUIRER that First Pacific had raised roughly P319 million to date from the sale of its shares in the stock market.

First Pacific also said it would sell another 1.88 percent of MPC or equivalent to 349.1 million shares subject to prevailing market conditions. The plan is sto sell "no more than 5 percent" of MPC's total issued shares.

MPC president Jose Ma. Lim said First Pacific plans to use the proceeds raised from the sale to fund the general corporate requirements of MPC.

This will include "certain funding support needed to implement the rehabilitation plan of Nenaco."

Nugent separately said the money would also help MPC pursue its tollways project.

Nenaco needs to raise P130 million to kickstart the rehabilitation of its fleet. Last month, MPC provided P120 million in loans to Nenaco.

MPC is also considering the delisting of Nenaco to allow it to fully implement its rehabilitation plan. Once approved, MPC would have to file a notice to conduct a tender offer to buy the shares of minority shareholders in Nenaco. MPC owns 97.2 percent of Nenaco, which was listed in 1994.

QC names Megaworld chair 'Businessman of the Year'

MEGAWORLD Corp. chair Andrew Tan joined this year's "Outstanding Citizens of Quezon City" who were honored at a testimonial dinner highlighting the city government's 65th founding anniversary yesterday at the Celebrity Sports Plaza.

Tan was awarded a special citation as "Businessman of the Year" in recognition of his "visionary leadership" in transforming Eastwood City into "a magnet for investments" and the "most dynamic growth center in Quezon City."

Tan presides over a business group with interests in real estate development, consumer product manufacturing and marketing.

Megaworld, Empire East Land Holdings and Empire East Suntrust (Empire East Properties) make up the Megaworld Group, currently the country's foremost residential developer, with close to 50 residential, commercial and office projects completed in the last 12 years.

Tan, who has carved out an important niche for Megaworld in urban renewal and redevelopment, calls Eastwood City, located near Libis in Quezon City, his biggest achievement to date.

"Eastwood City served as a catalyst in the transformation of Libis into a dynamic bustling urban center," he said.

Eastwood City is an integrated work-live-study-play complex that is home to the Eastwood City CyberPark, currently the single biggest call center and business process outsourcing hub in the Philippines. Among the top BPO firms headquartered there are giant BPO services provider IBM, eTelecare, the largest Asia-based call center firm, and Sitel, one of the world's top five call centers in terms of revenue.

DO YOU NEED ADVERTISING, GRAPHIC DESIGN, & CREATIVE CONSULTANCY SERVICES ?

1. CORPORATE IDENTITY DESIGN
2. BROCHURE & POSTER DESIGN
3. PACKAGING DESIGN
4. BANK ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN
5. BANK ANNUAL MANAGERS' MEETING COLLATERALS
6. LIFE & NON-LIFE INSURANCE ANNUAL AWARDS COLLATERALS
7. EXHIBIT / STAGE BACK DRAFT DESIGN *(With Mechanical Detailed Plan for Final Production)*
8. MERCHANDISING DESIGN *(SUPERMARKET GONDOLAS)* *(With Mechanical Detailed Plan for Final Production)*
9. CORPORATE NEWSLETTER
10. REAL ESTATE ROAD DIRECTIONAL SIGN DESIGN
11. PRINT PUBLICATION
12. PRODUCT LAUNCHING
13. INDOOR / OUTDOOR LARGE FORMAT BANNER DESIGN
14. GOLF TOURNAMENT'S MAIN SCOREBOARD / LEADER BOARD / YARDAGE BOARD & ADVERTISING BOARD DESIGN *(With Mechanical Detailed Plan for Final Production)*
15. TRAVEL AGENCY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY LAYOUT / DESIGN
16. AUDIO VISUAL CONCEPT DESIGN PRESENTATION
17. SPECTACULAR BILLBOARD CONCEPT LAYOUT DESIGN

PACE ASIA
SINCE 1989
9/F LEGASPI SUITES, 178 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. [illegible] 8182414 [illegible] Fax No. [illegible] E-mail: [illegible]

Piso Piso Auction !
UP TO 99%* OFF
Restaurant equipment, TVs
Aircon, Furniture, Appliance
Computer, Washng Machine!
Video: Oct 11 onwards @ SM Megamall
Viewing: Oct. 13, 14 from 9am - 5pm
Auction Day: Friday, Oct. 15, 2004 from 9am
Where: Soundstage, Sta. Lucia East,Grand Mall, Felix Ave, Cainta. Call for map!
Others: P3,000 Refundable Cash
Call # 638-3333, 638-3388 NOW!
WANT CASH? CALL US IF U WANT to SELL to the HIGHEST BIDDER !
Sold "as is, where is" *compared to new prices
AMERICAN AUCTION!
txt 0927-555-0000

SMC to relaunch . . .

From page B1

"The option and opportunity for San Miguel to reenter the market is open, as in the minds of consumers, Magnolia ice cream never left the market. People have always known Magnolia as a quality brand of ice cream. Loyalty to the brand is strong because it is part of our heritage," SMC chair Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. said.

SMC, through subsidiary Magnolia Inc., has a processing plant in Cavite. Magnolia currently manufactures and markets butter, cheese and margarine. The company accounts for nine out of every 10 non-refrigerated margarine products in the Philippines and four out of every five refrigerated margarine products.

Plans are being drawn up to build an ice cream production plant at the Laguna industrial park. SMC is planning to put up two other production facilities for other value-added food segments at the industrial park.

"Magnolia is a strong brand. It's a big consumer market out there. Relaunching the product would tap into SMC's large network of distributors," an analyst from a foreign brokerage firm said.

These initiatives are part of the company's expansion and modernization program that will involve a P15-billion investment over the next three years.

Trans Co
NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
South Luzon, Operation & Maintenance

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
AD NO. TRANSCO 2004-011A

The National Transmission Corporation, South Luzon O&M Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 8, 2004; 1:30 PM

SCHEDULE	ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER	APPROVED BUDGET
A1 8 UNITS	MICRO-PROCESSOR BASED FEEDER RELAY	PSMD-N-04-291	P 3,200,000.00
A2 6 UNITS	MICRO PROCESSOR BASED TRANSFORMER RELAY	PSMD-N-04-292	P 4,950,000.00

NOTE: A Pre-Bidding Conference for Schedules A1 and A2 will be held on October 26, 2004; 1:30 PM at the OAVP Conference Room.

Complete sets of Application Form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SLO&M, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00 per schedule starting October 14, 2004. No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Bids will be received at the Conference Room (OAVP), Transco-SL O&M, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna until the specified date and time of bidding above after which said bids will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. The procurement rules and regulations used in this transaction shall be in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations of "R.A. 9184".

The Bidder shall furnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to at least 1% of the approved budget in the form of Cash, Manager's/Cashier's Check, Certified Check, Bank Draft, or 1.5% of the approved budget in the form of Bank Guarantee, or 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by GSIS or a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of such action.

TRANSCO-South Luzon's other requirements are posted at the DBM Website: www.procurementservice.net and at the TRANSCO Website: www.transco.ph

(Sgd.) G.R. LISTANO
Chairman-BAC
SL O & M

(PDI – October 13, 2004)

IBM recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional for Business.

centrino
MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

Our ultraportable notebook has never been easier to carry.

Trains. Planes. Automobiles. Three reasons not to lug around a heavy notebook. So, when you're away from the office and working wirelessly, use an IBM ThinkPad X40 notebook, with Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology (on select models). They're our thinnest, lightest¹ notebooks ever. Yet, they're really big on features, like a full-size keyboard². Some models are just 2.7lbs. Other models feature the longest standard battery life of any leading-brand notebook (8-cell battery required, not shown.) The IBM ThinkPad X40. Fast and powerful, now in a surprisingly convenient take-home size. For a demo, go to ibm.com/shop. You might want to keep an eye on it.

Ultralight, all day computing.
Only on a ThinkPad.

IBM ThinkPad X40 notebook
Our thinnest and lightest
Distinctive IBM Innovations:
- Active Protection System
  - Helps protect hard drive from falls
- Rescue and Recovery™
  - Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery

System Features:
- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 713 Low Volatge (1.30GHz)
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless Network Connection 802.11b
  - Intel® 855 Chipset Family
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
- 12.1" XGA Display
- 256MB DDR SDRAM
- 40GB hard drive
- Integrated 56k modem/Ethernet LAN
- 4-cell Lithium Ion Battery (approx. 3.5 hrs)
- Secure Digital Card Reader
- 3 year International Carry-in Warranty
- FREE Executive Slip Case

NavCode 2371EA2
EXPRESS MODEL PRICED AT PhP105,995.00†

IBM ThinkPad R50e
Distinctive IBM Innovations:
- Rescue and Recovery™
  - Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery

System Features:
- Intel® Pentium® M Processor 705 (1.50GHz)
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 14" XGA Display
- 256 MD DDR SDRAM
- 30GB hard drive
- DVD-ROM, Intel DVMT
- 1 year Limited Warranty
- FREE IBM USB Travel Mouse

(Model not shown)
NavCode 1834CA2
EXPRESS MODEL PRICED AT PhP72,350.00†

IBM ThinkCentre S50
Our smallest desktop
System Features:
- Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 530 with HT Technology
  - Processor speed 3.0eGHz
  - 800MHz FSB
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
- 256 MD DDR PC2700
- 40GB hard drive
- 24xCD-ROM
- 3/1/1 parts, labor, on-site warranty
- 17" CRT Monitor

PhP53,500.00† (Model not shown) NavCode 80862BA

IBM ThinkCentre S50
Our smallest desktop
System Features:
- Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 540 with HT Technology
  - Processor speed 3.2eGHz
  - 800MHz FSB
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
- 256 MD DDR PC2700
- 40GB hard drive
- 24xCD-ROM
- 3/1/1 parts, labor, on-site warranty
- 17" CRT Monitor

PhP57,750.00† (Model not shown) NavCode 8086KAB

Best Notebook PC. IBM ThinkPad Family
MicroComputer (AP) - December, 2003

995-2426 | 1-800-1888-1246 | direct@ph.ibm.com
for more information
Monday to Saturday 9am - 6pm and Sunday 9am - 3pm

IBM®

BSP PROJECTION

Peso seen depreciating to 57:$1

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) expects the peso to further depreciate to 57 to a US dollar next year on concerns over the worsening budget deficit.

The peso slid to its historic low of 56.45 to the US dollar last Sept. 27 due to heavy corporate demand, and pressure from skyrocketing oil prices and soft regional currency markets.

In a budget hearing at the House yesterday, BSP Officer-in-Charge Armando Suratos said that the peso was expected to move between 55 and 57 to a US dollar in the medium term due to a "modest" capital flow.

Suratos told members of the House appropriations committee that the movement of the peso would largely depend on how the Arroyo administration's proposed fiscal measures would progress.

He said the pace of the implementation of these reforms would influence the volume of capital that would circulate in the economy.

The government's economic team—which includes the BSP, the Departments of Finance, Budget and Management and Trade and Industry and National Economic and Development Authority, is pushing for the passage of tax measures to generate a combined P80 billion in additional revenue per year.

These include the rationalization of fiscal incentives, tax amnesty, indexation to inflation of excise taxes on cigarettes and alcohol, P2 increase in petroleum taxes, implementation of a performance-based lateral attrition for government agencies, increase in the value-added tax rate, shift from net to gross income tax and imposition of franchise tax on telecommunication companies.

Adding pressure to the peso are concerns over dwindling foreign exchange reserves.

The BSP's gross international reserves have already dropped below $16 billion, considered a benchmark by foreign exchange market analysts.

The GIR dipped to $15.9 billion last September, prompting predictions that the BSP could borrow more dollars to keep its reserves at comfortable levels.

The BSP, however, said earlier that it would not take extraordinary measures to prop up the GIR level as long as it stays within the 2004 target of $14 billion to $15 billion.

PUBLIC ESTATES AUTHORITY

7TH FLOOR LEGASPI TOWERS 200, PASEO DE ROXAS,
CITY OF MAKATI, METRO MANILA
TELEPHONE NUMBERS: 817-4711 • 817-4712 • 817-4713
• 817-5017 • 817-5018 • 817-5014 • 813-1441/46
FAX (632) 815-2662 • 815-2660 • 817-3127 • ZIP CODE 1226

2004

INVITATION TO BID

The **PUBLIC ESTATES AUTHORITY (PEA)** is inviting interested parties to participate in the public bidding for the sale or lease of eleven (11) lots on a serviced land basis, located at the Central Business Park 1 A, Bay City (formerly known as Boulevard 2000), Pasay City, for mixed use or commercial development purposes.

1. Properties for sale or lease:

BLK		LOT	AREA[1] (M²)	MODE
A1	1	corner	3,843	SALE
A2	1	corner	3,462	SALE
A2	2	interior	2,568	SALE
A2	3	interior	2,611	SALE
A2	4	interior	2,573	SALE
A2	5	corner	3,321	SALE
A3	1	corner	2,500	SALE
A3	2	interior	2,222	SALE
B4		portion	5,825	SALE OR LEASE
B7		portion	4,648	SALE OR LEASE
B5		portion	18,348	SALE OR LEASE

[1] Subject to final survey

2. Qualified bidders:

Sale : Any Filipino citizen, of legal age; any government owned or controlled corporations and any government financial institution or any public corporation, which have complied with the requirements established by PEA for this bidding.

Lease : Any Filipino citizen, of legal age; any partnership, association or corporation, public or private of which at least 60% of the capital stock or of any interest in said capital stock belongs wholly to citizens of the Philippines and which is organized and constituted under the laws of the Philippines.

3. Interested qualified parties may obtain the Terms of Reference and Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) in cash or Manager's/ Cashier's Check starting 28 September to 27 October, 2004 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Marketing Department, 7th Floor Legaspi Towers 200, Paseo de Roxas, Makati MM.
4. The first pre-bid conference is scheduled on 21 October 2004 at 10:00 AM at the PEA Conference Room.
5. Required pre-qualification documents and duly accomplished Bid Documents prescribed in the Terms of Reference shall be submitted to the PEA Real Estates Bids and Awards Committee (PREBAC) on 4 November 2004 on or before 10:00 AM. Public opening of bids shall follow at 10:30 AM of the same day.
6. For further information, inquiries may be made to the Marketing Department in the above address at telephone numbers 817-4711 to 13 (trunk line) and 813-7103 to 7104 (direct lines).

(Sgd.) TEODORICO C. TAGUINOD
General Manager/CEO

(PDI – Sept. 27 & Oct. 2, 7, 13, 18 & 25, 2004)

DOF establishes Bayanihan Fund

FINANCE Secretary Juanita Amatong yesterday announced the formal establishment of the Bayanihan Fund.

The fund will consist of donations from the public and private and public sector groups to help the government ease its budget deficit.

Amatong said in a statement that the Treasury department would be the repository of the cash donations.

Donations may be deposited with any branch of the Land Bank of the Philippines, under the account of the Treasurer of the Philippines-Bayanihan.

For the convenience of the donors, the Department of Finance, in consultation with the Treasury, will soon accredit other government agencies to accept donations to the Bayanihan Fund.

Amatong said, however, that the DOF and the Department of Budget and Management were still working on the guidelines to govern the use of the Bayanihan Fund.

"We would like to be very transparent in handling the Bayanihan Fund," said Amatong.

The Bayanihan Fund was set up after Speaker Jose de Venecia received donations from the private sector to help head off a fiscal crisis.

Meanwhile, outgoing Treasurer Mina Figueroa said that Finance Undersecretary Nieves Osorio would serve as officer in charge of the Treasury until Malacañang announces her permanent replacement.

Figueroa's resignation will take effect on Oct. 16. *Michelle V. Remo*

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES

1598 M. H. del Pilar Street, Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos. 551-22-00, 522-00-00, 526-01-00

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

(Head Office and Branches)
As of September 21, 2004

ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Items	P	5,487,987,266
Due from Bangko Sentral		11,965,636,058
Due from Other Banks		1,240,045,524
Interbank Loans Receivable		13,188,768,956
Trading Account Securities (Net)		58,793,243
Investment in Bonds and Other Debt Instruments (Net)		92,813,124,180
Loans, Discounts and Advances (Net)		109,164,861,384
Underwriting Accounts (Net)		50,000,000
Equity Investments (Net)		6,257,280,403
Bank Premises, Furniture,Fixtures & Equipment (Net)		4,967,188,818
Other Assets (Net):		
Property Owned/Acquired		15,264,903,267
Others		11,751,509,970
TOTAL ASSETS	P	272,210,099,069
LIABILITIES		
Demand Deposits	P	74,043,178,443
Savings Deposits		106,178,574,800
Time Deposits		22,011,462,343
Special/Other Deposits		1,251,355,186
Due to Bangko Sentral		67,850,906
Due to Banks		53,325,529
Outstanding Checks/Payment Orders		866,726,077
Bills Payable:		
BSP-Rediscounting/Special Programs		566,366,668
Interbank Borrowings		6,447,804,500
Deposits Substitutes		237,058,512
Others		27,153,969,461
Unearned Income and Other Deferred Credits		3,631,790,542
Other Liabilities		13,372,074,714
TOTAL LIABILITIES	P	255,881,546,681
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		
Capital Stock	P	10,871,000,000
Surplus		2,564,649,984
Surplus Reserves		2,843,436,529
Other Capital Accounts		49,465,875
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		16,328,552,388
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	P	272,210,099,069
CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS		
Unused Commercial Letters of Credit	P	5,649,273,938
Bills for Collection		683,550,375
Spot/Future Exchange Sold		8,098,738,250
Spot/Future Exchange Bought		(2,690,956,471)
Assets Held Under Trust and Investment Management Agreements		
Invested in:		
- Government Securities		13,022,044,891
- Other Securities, Debt Instruments and Shares of Stocks		11,312,101
- Loans and Discounts		310,878,085
- Other Assets		4,479,074,211
Accountabilities:		
- Trust and Other Fiduciary		9,734,083,145
- Common Trust Funds		2,668,846,838
- Investment/Fund Management		5,420,379,305
Other Contingent Accounts		40,287,185,292
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS	P	69,851,100,672

Other Information

1. Deposits of:		
a. Government	P	130,405,062,546
b. Banks		4,369,480,809
c. Trust Department		513,051,574
2. Compliance with Magna Carta Law:		
a. Prescribed Ratio of Compliance for 6% (Small Enterprises)		20.47%
b. Prescribed Ratio of Compliance for 2% (Medium Enterprises)		5.02%
3. Amount of Non-Performing Loans		23,301,228,659*
4. Ratio of Non-Performing Loans to Total Loan Portfolio		16.59 %
5. Amount of Classified Loans and Other Risk Assets		54,422,581,853
6. General Provision for Loan Losses		1,443,692,722
7. Specific Provision for Loan Losses		16,622,921,421
8. Return on Equity (ROE)		10.48%
9. Amount of DOSRI Loans/Advances		2,784,744,200
10. Ratio of DOSRI Loans/Advances to Total Loan Portfolio		1.96%
11. Amount of Past Due DOSRI Loans/Advances		17,996

* *Includes Loans Classified as "Loss" which are fully covered by Allowance for Probable Losses amounting to P3,062,835,501.70*

We, ANDRES C. SARMIENTO and MARGARITO B. TEVES of the above-mentioned bank do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above Statement of Condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Sgd. ANDRES C. SARMIENTO
FVP-Controllership Group

Sgd. MARGARITO B. TEVES
President and CEO

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 8th day of October 2004 in the City of Manila, affiants exhibiting to me their Residence Certificate No. 06014496, issued in Manila on January 9, 2004 and Residence Certificate No. 05307021 issued in the City of Manila on January 8, 2004.

Doc. No. 278
Page No. 57
Book No. IV
Series of 2004

FLORENCE ROSALIND R. CLAVERIA
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2005
PTR No. 2813228
Issued on January 20, 2004
Manila

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONDITION

(Bank and Financial Subsidiaries)
As of September 21, 2004

ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Items	P	5,495,625,300
Due from Bangko Sentral		11,965,636,058
Due from Other Banks		1,318,961,896
Interbank Loans Receivable		13,188,768,956
Trading Account Securities (Net)		58,793,243
Investment in Bonds and Other Debt Instruments (Net)		92,861,280,301
Loans, Discounts and Advances (Net)		109,152,211,603
Underwriting Accounts (Net)		50,000,000
Equity Investments (Net)		5,449,424,830
Bank Premises, Furniture,Fixtures & Equipment (Net)		5,154,406,312
Other Assets (Net):		
Property Owned/Acquired		15,301,614,621
Others		12,709,601,287
TOTAL ASSETS	P	272,706,324,413
LIABILITIES		
Demand Deposits	P	74,033,161,577
Savings Deposits		106,165,442,221
Time Deposits		22,011,462,343
Special/Other Deposits		1,251,355,187
Due to Bangko Sentral		67,859,906
Due to Banks		53,325,529
Outstanding Checks/Payment Orders		867,839,498
Bills Payable:		
BSP-Rediscounting/Special Programs		566,366,668
Interbank Borrowings		6,447,804,500
Deposits Substitutes		237,058,512
Others		27,153,969,461
Unearned Income and Other Deferred Credits		4,113,370,021
Other Liabilities		13,406,446,108
TOTAL LIABILITIES	P	256,375,461,531
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		
Capital Stock	P	10,871,000,000
Surplus		2,566,865,887
Surplus Reserves		2,843,531,120
Other Capital Accounts		49,465,875
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		16,330,862,882
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	P	272,706,324,413
CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS		
Unused Commercial Letters of Credit	P	5,649,273,938
Bills for Collection		683,550,375
Spot/Future Exchange Sold		8,098,738,250
Spot/Future Exchange Bought		(2,690,956,471)
Assets Held Under Trust and Investment Management Agreements		
Invested in:		
- Government Securities		13,022,044,891
- Other Securities, Debt Instruments and Shares of Stocks		11,312,101
- Loans and Discounts		310,878,085
- Other Assets		4,479,074,211
Accountabilities:		
- Trust and Other Fiduciary		9,734,083,145
- Common Trust Funds		2,668,846,838
- Investment/Fund Management		5,420,379,305
Other Contingent Accounts		40,287,185,292
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS	P	69,851,100,672

Other Information

1. Deposits of:		
a. Government	P	130,405,062,546
b. Banks		4,369,480,809
c. Trust Department		513,051,574

2. List of Bank's Financial Subsidiaries
   - a. LBP Leasing Corporation
   - b. LBP Financial Services, SPA
   - c. LBP Remittance Co., USA

We, ANDRES C. SARMIENTO and MARGARITO B. TEVES of the above-mentioned bank do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above Consolidated Statement of Condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Sgd. ANDRES C. SARMIENTO
FVP-Controllership Group

Sgd. MARGARITO B. TEVES
President and CEO

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 8th day of October 2004 in the City of Manila, affiants exhibiting to me their Residence Certificate No. 06014496, issued in Manila on January 9, 2004 and Residence Certificate No. 05307021 issued in the City of Manila on January 8, 2004.

Doc. No. 279
Page No. 57
Book No. IV
Series of 2004

FLORENCE ROSALIND R. CLAVERIA
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2005
PTR No. 2813228
Issued on January 20, 2004
Manila

Member: Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (Deposits insured up to P250,000.00)

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of October 12, 2004)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	3	3	3	3	9,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	19	19	18.75	18.75	36,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	48	48	47	47.5	4,178,200
China Banking Corp.	530	530	530	530	4,970
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	43.5	43.5	43	43	11,000
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	270,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	28.5	28.5	27.5	28	237,000
Philippine National Bank	23	23	23	23	10,000
Phil. Savings Bank	28	28	28	28	6,200
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	13	13	13	13	5,000
Security Bank Corp.	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	19,600
Union Bank Of The Phil.	23.75	23.75	23.5	23.75	900
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Bankard Inc.	0.93	0.93	0.92	0.92	320,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	2460	2470	2460	2470	930
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.32	1.34	1.32	1.34	609,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1665	1680	1665	1680	190
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	22	22	21.75	21.75	10,300
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	1.42	1.48	1.3	1.3	41,956,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	1080	1080	1040	1045	83,020
Ipeople Inc.	1.7	1.74	1.7	1.7	56,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.039	0.039	0.037	0.037	2,900,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.51	0.51	0.46	0.46	670,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.6	2.6	2.44	2.55	18,138,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co	0.41	0.42	0.39	0.39	960,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1465	1465	1450	1450	93,090
Ivantage Corp.	0.71	0.71	0.68	0.7	5,620,000
Philweb Corp.	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.013	233,200,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	15.75	15.75	15.75	15.75	81,100
Manila Electric Co. B	24.25	24.25	23.75	23.75	882,200
Petron Corp.	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	5,651,000
Salcon Power Corp.	2.22	2.22	2.18	2.2	200,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	26,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	5	5.1	4.95	5.1	1,202,000
Keppel Phils. Marine, Inc.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	150,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	110,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip.	Inc.	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.37 1,060,000
Union Cement Corp.	2.	50	2.5	2.42	2.48 3,333,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	30	30	30	30	10,100
Jollibee Foods Corp.	28	28	28	28	111,600
Swift Food Inc.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	380,000
San Miguel Corp. A	56.5	58	56.5	57.5	95,900
San Miguel Corp. B	73	73	72	72.5	53,600
Vitarich Corp.	0.29	0.3	0.29	0.3	600,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.004	0.004	0.0038	0.0038	36,000,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.0042	0.0042	0.004	0.004	39,000,000
Ayala Corp.	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.2	3,684,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	3.55	3.6	3.55	3.6	6,094,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.029	0.029	0.026	0.026	3,000,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38	196,000
APC Group Inc.	0.0675	0.0675	0.0675	0.0675	200,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	338,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.28	0.28	450,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	30,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	16.5	16.5	16	16	16,900
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	20,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.55	0.55	0.54	0.54	6,080,000
A Brown Co. Inc.	0.46	0.55	0.46	0.55	610,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.14	0.14	0.135	0.135	990,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.25	1,250,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.135	0.135	0.13	0.135	1,730,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.24	2.3	8,376,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.98	120,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	27	27.5	27	27.5	400,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1,400,000
House of Investments Inc.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	600,000
Ionics Inc.	1.88	1.88	1.8	1.8	170,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	2.16	2.16	2.06	2.06	500,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.4	1.42	1.4	1.42	20,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	1,000,000
Medco Holdings	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	6,200,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.28	1.28	1.22	1.22	3,701,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.43	0.43	0.33	0.33	220,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.52	0.54	0.45	0.46	193,970,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.155	0.155	0.15	0.15	1,500,000
Prime Media Holdings Inc.	1.04	1.06	1.04	1.06	95,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.135	0.14	0.135	0.14	500,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.92	0.92	0.88	0.88	110,000
Solid Group, Inc.	0.36	0.38	0.36	0.38	120,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.155	0.155	0.15	0.15	7,230,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.22	2,600,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Interphil Labs Inc. A	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	56,000
Interphil Labs Inc. B	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	56,000
Jardine Davies Inc.	37	37	37	37	1,200
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.74	1.76	1.74	1.76	163,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.94	0.95	0.94	0.95	300,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	2,000,000
Steniel Manufacturing	0.135	0.135	0.13	0.13	100,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.67	0.67	0.66	0.66	3,920,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	1.14	1.2	0.95	0.96	14,451,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.69	0.73	0.64	0.64	1,810,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.34	0.35	0.33	0.33	1,060,000
Philippine Racing Club	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	38,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp.(Pdr)	21.75	21.75	21.5	21.5	66,800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	2,100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,800
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	3,000
PLDT 10% Pref Series Cc	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,500
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	236,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.6	2,707,000
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	70,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.51	10,000
C&P Homes Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.38	0.39	9,660,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	1,920,000
EIB Realty Developers Inc.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	20,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.39	0.4	0.36	0.37	40,070,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.12	1.12	1.08	1.08	9,932,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.215	0.215	0.2	0.21	3,370,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.52	0.52	0.5	0.51	5,080,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.12	0.12	0.11	0.11	550,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	75,000
SM Development Corp.	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06	406,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.7	5,829,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co., Inc. A	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	120,000
Apex Mining Co., Inc B	0.22	0.22	0.2	0.2	340,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.006	0.0065	0.006	0.0065	106,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	3	3.05	3	3.05	62,000
Benguet Corp. A	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	20,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	30,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.225	0.225	0.22	0.22	1,500,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	420,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	119,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	109,500,000
Omico Corp.	0.006	0.006	0.0055	0.0055	285,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	2,800,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.41	0.42	0.41	0.42	3,130,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.45	0.47	0.45	0.46	2,540,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	60,000
OIL					
Interport Res. B	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	6,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0048	0.0048	0.0044	0.0046	151,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0048	0.0048	0.0046	0.0046	123,000,000
Pacifica	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	14,100,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.6	2.6	2.55	2.55	42,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.037	0.037	0.036	0.036	1,100,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.185	0.195	0.185	0.195	210,000

DISCLOSURES

PBCOM concluded last Oct. 11 the sale of P12.56 billion in non- performing assets to Unimark Investments (SPV-AMC) Corp.

* * *

METRO Pacific announced that P581.1 million worth of common shares have been sold and an additional P349.1 million common shares would be sold in the open market. The intention is to sell not more than 5 percent of Metro Pacific's total issued common shares.

* * *

ANSCOR Consolidated Corp. (ACC), a 100-percent owned subsidiary of A. Soriano Corp. (Anscor), bought 500,000 shares of Anscor on Oct. 11. ACC has a total of over 715.2 million shares of Anscor.

* * *

THE **PHILIPPINE Savings Banks (PSB)** declared regular cash dividends at P0.20 per share and another P0.20 per share special cash dividends both payable starting Nov. 10 in favor of stockholders of record as of Oct. 26.

Compiled by Chona Galang, PDI Research

CURRENCIES

October 12, 2004 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.805672	1.000000	56.3440
Japan	Yen	0.007357	0.009132	0.5145
United Kingdom	Pound	1.445859	1.794600	101.1149
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.103480	0.128439	7.2368
Switzerland	Franc	0.644331	0.799744	45.0608
Canada	Dollar	0.643508	0.798722	45.0032
Singapore	Dollar	0.479196	0.594778	33.5122
Australia	Dollar	0.592232	0.735078	41.4172
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.137117	2.652590	149.4575
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.214846	0.266667	15.0251
Brunei	Dollar	0.477775	0.593014	33.4126
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000089	0.000110	0.0062
Thailand	Baht	0.019527	0.024237	1.3656
UAE	Dirham	0.219362	0.272272	15.3409
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.241200	69.9342
Argentina	Peso	0.271819	0.337382	19.0095
Brazil	Real	0.285598	0.354484	19.9730
Denmark	Kroner	0.134409	0.166828	9.3998
India	Rupee	0.017630	0.021882	1.2329
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.212047	0.263193	14.8293
Mexico	New Peso	0.071689	0.088980	5.0135
New Zealand	Dollar	0.550209	0.682920	38.4784
Korea	Won	0.000702	0.000871	0.0491
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.023908	0.029674	1.6720

Toll hike seen to test government will

TOLLS on the country's newest renovated highway will jump nearly fivefold by December, but the operating company claimed that the increases would be offset by lower fuel and vehicle maintenance costs.

The takeover by Manila North Tollways Corp. of the 84-kilometer (60-mile) highway linking Manila to the north of Luzon could be a test of the government's political will in implementing contracts with investors despite public opposition to higher fees.

Renovation of the 30-year-old potholed highway is nearly complete, including the latest toll collection facilities from one of the world's largest toll operators—Egis Projects of France, one of the tollway's foreign investors.

New tolls will be about 479 percent of the current rates, company figures say.

MNTC president Jose de Jesus, however, said the improvements would drop overall travel costs.

"At the very least, it is not going to cost more," he told journalists. "The problem is that people don't see (the savings in fuel and vehicle maintenance), they only see the money they take out of their pockets."

Other shareholders in the $371-million project include state-owned Philippine National Construction Corp. and Leighton Asia of Australia, which was responsible for the roadwork.

De Jesus acknowledged risks from a possible decline in usage and competition from a planned railway and an old but parallel highway.

The bigger risk is in the "regulatory environment, which is hard to predict," he said, referring to possible changes in the terms of a concession agreement with the government. Some large foreign investments, including Manila's new but still unused international airport terminal, have stalled due to changes in policy or political leadership.

The Lopez family, the major investor in MNTC, has felt the costly effects of public pressure before.

Its Manila Electric Co., the country's largest power distributor, was forced to refund billings allowed by regulators eight years earlier.

De Jesus said he was expecting a congressional inquiry soon on the highway and tolls.

"If there is a contract, the contract has to be honored," the former public works secretary said. "That's the only security the investor has." *AP*

Luzon Hydro terminates Kayapa project

LUZON Hydro Corp. said it had terminated its Kayapa Diversion Project, an expansion of the company's existing Bakun AC 70-MW Hydro Electric Power station in Ilocos Sur, because it was not financially viable.

The Kayapa project would have entailed diverting additional water from the Poy-Ocan and Kayapa rivers into the existing Bakun AC power station and generate additional power to be sold to the National Power Corp.

Due to the "sliding tariff" agreement between LHC and NPC for power sold, the project was only financially feasible if completion could be guaranteed on or before July 5, 2005. LHC had obtained the consent from Barangay Kayapa landowners and residents, the Bakun municipality, Benguet Province and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). It was also granted an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC). However, the critical element of the work—the construction of an access road between Amilongan in Ilocos Sur and Poy-Ocan in Benguet—was delayed due to landowner problems. The cumulative effect of the delays and expected future delays determined that the project was no longer financially viable.

LHC managing director Graham Corbishley said in a statement that LHC might still consider proceeding with the construction of a much smaller diversion project from Kayapa Creek only but not from the Poy-Ocan tunnel.

LHC is a joint venture between Aboitiz Equity Ventures and Pacific Hydro Ltd. of Australia.

Business to share savings from power rate cut

LEADERS of the country's major business organizations yesterday said the benefits of prospective electricity bill savings to be derived from a recent Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) ruling would be shared with the customers and employees of their member firms.

The business leaders issued the statement following a recent ERC decision phasing out the inter-class subsidy given by the industrial and commercial customers of Manila Electric Co. to its residential customers. The decision could bring down power rates by as much as 27 centavos per kilowatt hour for Meralco's industrial and commercial customers and generate for them as much as P20 million in savings a year.

Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) chair emeritus Miguel Varela said the reduction in power rates should translate into lower production costs.

"If such would be the case, why should we not pass on the savings to our customers," Varela said.

Former Employers Confederation of the Philippines (Ecop) president and ambassador for international trade Donald Dee said the removal of the cross subsidy would likely bring down the price of certain products.

"This is an important signal to prospective investors from other countries, and this should help regain investor interest in the Philippines," Dee said.

Fila expanding presence in RP

THE PHILIPPINE licensee of Italian sports and fashion brand Fila is embarking on an aggressive expansion plan to strengthen the brand's presence nationwide.

"Fila has been experiencing significant growth in the Philippine market over the last decade. By the middle of this year, the brand already exceeded revenue targets five times. Fila's expansion is to ensure we keep a firm foothold on the market and sustain the current growth rates," explained Jose Ma. Albert, president and CEO of iSport Life Inc.

Fila is one of the three leading European brands of sports and leisure wear in the world. In the Philippines, it has retained its position among the country's top five foreign brands enjoying strong positions in the market. Fila ranks among the top 3 in top-of-mind brand recall and has high potential for market leadership in the Philippines. It is a market leader in Japan and Korea.

Albert believes the shot in the arm given to traditional sports, including the re-introduction of badminton, plus the growing popularity of alternative fitness training programs are also among the reasons behind the exponential growth that the sports and leisure apparel industry has been experiencing.

With the growing interest for a healthy active lifestyle, iSport Life brings the Fila brand to the market through more than 20 new stores nationwide.

iSport Life also said Fila franchising opportunities for interested strategic partners were now being considered.

iSport Life Inc. has the exclusive rights to distribute and sublicense Fila in the Philippines under a 25-year sub-franchising and sublicensing contract granted by Fila Italy.

Autohaus BMW
Sheer Driving Pleasure
Autohaus BMW

Sometimes brand is more important than new.

- Select cars available at **0% interest.**
- Experience the difference a BMW makes with the BMW 3 Series 24-hour test drive.
- Opt for 5 years of free service with the BMW Service Inclusive as an alternative.
- Get special benefits at the country's one and only BMW Zeno Lifestyle Lounge with the Zeno Privilege Card.

Take the high road to BMW excitement.

BMW Certified Pre-Owned cars:

BMW 316i 1999 Titanium Silver, 57,000km, P950,000
BMW 316i 2000 Alpine White, 23,200km, P1,050,000
BMW 316i 2001 Light Yellow, 26,600km, P1,100,000
BMW 316i 2001 Steel Gray, 30,300km, P1,100,000
BMW 316i 2001 Fern Green, 35,800km, P1,150,000
BMW 318i Limo. 2000 Steel Gray, 52,000km, P1,425,000
BMW 318i Exec. 2001 Black Sapphire, 29,200km, P1,525,000
BMW 323i 1999 Imola Red, 36,300km, P1,600,000
BMW 318i Limo. 2003 Titanium Silver, 19,700km, P1,650,000
BMW 323i 2001 Steel Gray, 12,300km, P1,700,000
BMW 318i Exec. 2004 Titanium Silver, 13,000km, P2,150,000
BMW 318i Exec. 2004 Black Sapphire, 5,300km, P2,150,000
BMW 318i M Sport 2004 Topaz Blue, 3,800km, P2,400,000
BMW 318i M Sport 2004 Black Sapphire, 6,600km, P2,400,000
BMW 325i Exec. 2003 Titanium Silver, 12,600km, P2,550,000
BMW 325i Exec. 2004 Titanium Silver, 17,900km, P2,590,000
BMW 325i Exec. 2004 Titanium Silver, 10,200km, P2,690,000
BMW 325i M Sport 2004 Imola Red, 1,200km, P3,100,000
BMW 525i Exec. 2004 Alpine White, 5,900km, P4,200,000

Other cars available:

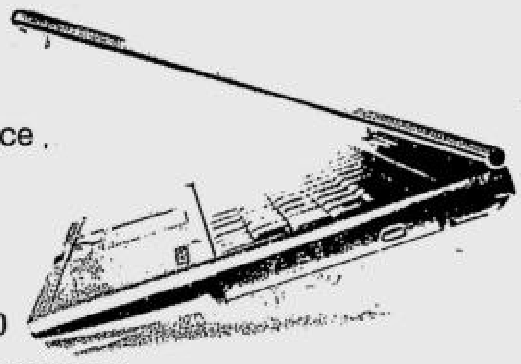
BMW 316i 1995 Cosmos Black, 62,200km, P500,000
BMW 318tds 1996 Arktis Silver, 62,300km, P850,000
BMW 523i 1996 Glacier Green, 52,000km, P1,400,000
BMW 523i 1996 Arktis Silver, 56,100km, P1,400,000

Autohaus BMW. The BMW Experience. 184 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City • Tel. (02) 638 0734 to 43 / (02) 638 2653 / (0917) 832 2324 / (0917) 811 5523 / Fax (02) 438 0419

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1927 Series of 2004

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE FUJITSU

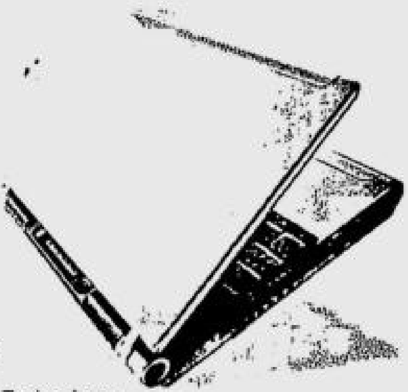
Built-in Confidence.



LifeBook S6130

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 1.40GHz
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2100 Network Connection
  - Intel® 855GME Chipset
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 256MB DDR333
- 40GB HDD
- 13.3" XGA TFT
- Combo Drive (DVD & CD-RW) replaceable with options
- Hot Swappable Modular Bay
- V.92¹ Modem & 1000/100/10Mbps Gigabit Ethernet
- Approx. 1.75kg (with weight saver option)

P 114,900



LifeBook P5020

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 1GHz (Ultra Low Voltage)
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2100 Network Connection
  - Intel® 855GM Chipset
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 512MB SDRAM (max. 1024MB)
- 60GB HDD
- 10.6" Wide Super XGA TFT
- Combo Drive (DVD & CD-RW) replaceable with options
- V.92 Modem & 100/10Mbps Gigabit Ethernet
- Approx. 1.75kg

P 119,500

Fujitsu recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional.

LifeBook P7010

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 713 (Ultra Low Voltage)
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG Network Connection
  - Intel® 855GME Chipset
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 512MB DDR333
- 60GB HDD
- 10.6" SuperFine Wide SXGA TFT
- Combo Drive (DVD & CD-RW)
- Hot Swappable Modular Bay
- V.92 Modem & 100/10Mbps Gigabit Ethernet
- Approx. 1.40kg

P 144,000

LifeBook E8010

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 715
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG Network Connection
  - Intel® 855GME Chipset
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 512MB DDR333
- 60GB HDD
- 15" XGA TFT display
- Ext. USB FDD
- Combo Drive (DVD & CD-RW) replaceable with options
- V.92 Modem & 1000/100/10Mbps Gigabit Ethernet

P 119,900

LifeBook S6220

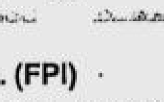
- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 735/715
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG Network Connection
  - Intel® 855GME Chipset
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 512MB DDR333, max. 2048MB
- 80/60/40GB HDD
- 13.3" XGA TFT display
- Combo Drive (DVD & CD-RW)
- V.92 Modem & 100/10Mbps Gigabit Ethernet
- Optional Wireless LAN
- Approx. 1.65kg (with weight saver option)

P 119,900

LifeBook C2220

- Mobile Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 2.20GHz - M
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 256MB DDR266
- 30GB HDD
- 14.1" XGA TFT
- V.92 Modem & 100/10Mbps Gigabit Ethernet
- Optional Wireless LAN
- DVD-RW/Combo Drive (DVD & CD-RW)

P 99,999



LifeBook S7010

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 735
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG Network Connection
  - Intel® 855GME Chipset
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
- 512MB DDR333, max. 2048MB
- 80GB HDD
- 14" XGA TFT
- DVD Super Multi-Drive²
- V.92¹ Modem & 1000/100/10Mbps Gigabit Ethernet
- Approx. 1.75kg (with weight saver option)

P 199,000

Stylistic ST5011

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 1GHz (Ultra Low Voltage)
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2100 Network Connection
  - Intel® 855GME Chipset
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Tablet PC Edition
- 512MB DDR333
- 40GB HDD
- 10.4" XGA TFT
- Ext. USB FDD
- V.92¹ Modem & 1000/100/10/Mbps Gigabit Ethernet
- Approx. 1.55kg

P 159,900

1 Dependent on local service provider
2 Supports DVD RAM, DVD+RW, DVD+R, DVD RW DVD R CD RW CD R CD ROM, and DVD ROM formats

Fujitsu Philippines, Inc. (FPI)
2/F United Life Bldg., 837A. Arnaiz Ave., Legaspi Village, Makati City 1229
Tel: +63 (2) 894-8557 Fax: +63 (2) 817-7576 http://ph.fujitsu.com

Authorized Resellers

intel inside centrino MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8978425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 522-4406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2004

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PERSONAL

CONSULTING SERVICES

MIGRATION TO AUSTRALIA
ELPIDIO JNR. BAUTISTA
Registered Migration Agent
MARA 000 2606
Free Consultation
Working Skilled Family visa
email:elpidioj@tpg.com.au
Australia Tel/Fax: (612) 97235537
Phil.-Tel/Fax: (632) 951 0180

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Skin Clinic Rapid Tx Comp Lab Tel. 8175071 Matrinco 2178 P. Tamo Makati

DR. C.M. GARMA SPECIALITY CLINIC
VD-GONORRHEA, SYPHILIS, AIDS
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES
ADULT CIRCUMCISION
PAINLESS, GERMAN CUT, BLOODLESS
SKIN DISEASES, WARTS, CYST, VAGINAL REPAIR
BLOOD, URINE
PREG. AIDS TEST
8 Purdue St. Cubao, Q. C.
Back Stella Maris Coll.
nr. Isetan
Open- Mon to Sat
9 am to 5 pm
Tel. 4392706 / 9139474

PERSONAL

PIMPLE TRMT P200 WARTS 534-4003 Cel 0927-3643905

EDITING, WRITING & RESEARCH -- Books, Studies, Speeches, Articles 09208237465

MASSAGE

Massage w/ Reflexology 534-4003 • 0919-3220871

02-3233269 Best Boys

02-8347357 AKHIN THAI BAGUIO CEBU DVAO MLA

09208538516 Lister Call

09272216759 Call Warren

ADAM'S APPLE 3605724

ASK JOHN MALE MASSEURS (0921)5364794

MALE 09173249921

MALE MASSUER 8535399 24hrs ALEX

MASSAGE 8539217 ALFRED

MASSAGE 8539217 ALFRED

THAI Msge Lic 0921-7569278

UNIVERSAL SPA 1157Quezon Ave QC 4101259

REFLEXOLOGY

BODYLAX
131 Roosevelt Ave SFDM
Promo 40% 414-4488

Jason 3rd Massage 4372542

BODYLAX
131 Roosevelt Ave SFDM
Promo 40% 414-4488

★FEELS GOOD 4127758★

Jojo HMS 0920-8635511

REFLEXOLOGY 0918-6719110

•Wizard Massage 4213197•

TUTORIAL LESSONS

LIGHT 5301315 / 5268216

NEED TRANSLATOR? Niponggo /Tag 0920-5866871 Eric

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PERSONAL

CONSULTING SERVICES

MISCELLANEOUS

WEB DESIGN 0927-8910444

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A'A MAIDS & YAYA 4386920

ANGEL MAIDS 4213253

Best Maid Yaya Boy 9967034

EZ HOME AGNCY 8234243

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8503

HOUSE MAID 8970106

BEST MAIDS 8250754

Trusted Maids w/NBI 4392490

TRUSTWORTHY, MASIPAG MAID, YAYA 725-2945 • 725-0298

Yaya Cook H'girl 8957507

LIPAT BAHAY

•731-6833•LIPAT

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

L-BAHAY 8383742/09209449984

LBAHAY 7113540

P1200/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

PASIG

PRIME PROPERTY 418sqm 5Dr 2Sty Apt. Infrnt of Pamantasan ng Lunsod ng Pasig 09189422422•09178212826

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

5Dr. Apt 247m^2 25T/m^2 Neg. 2148 M. Hizon Sta Cruz Mla Call 426-0692 Jenny

P1.7M only Rush Smith St Malate 8291842/09175202133

Singalong Manila BnewTwnhse /3stry/3br/3lbmaid's rm1-2grge P3.990M up 8903461 loc. 34

MARIKINA

Bnew 4BR 3TB 2.8M 9487112

PARANAQUE

Marcelo 3BR 1.5M 927-6531

MULT'L VILL FA=500sqm LA=299sqm 8BR PLS CALL 0918-9132396

PASIG

Capitolyo P18M 631-3496

QUEZON CITY

600m^2 3sty Bldg Malakas St 300&1200 West Traingle9298376

BULACAN

STA. MARIA 225T 3636468

CAVITE

BACOOR 650T 09202434690

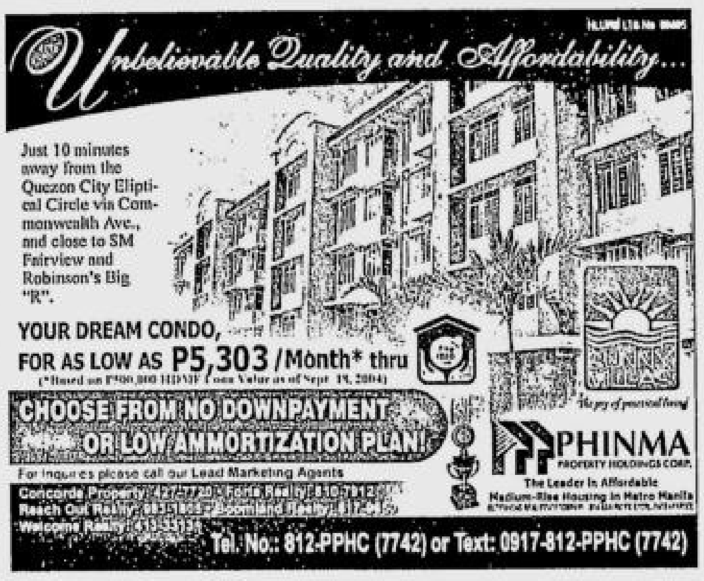
LAGUNA

BINAN 400T (0920)2434690

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE


HLURB LTS No. [illegible]
The joy of practical living
PHINMA PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORP.
The Leader In Affordable Medium-Rise Housing in Metro Manila

Unbelievable Quality and Affordability...

Just 10 minutes away from the Quezon City Elliptical Circle via Commonwealth Ave., and close to SM Fairview and Robinson's Big "R".

YOUR DREAM CONDO, FOR AS LOW AS P5,303 /Month* thru
(*Based on P500,000 HDMF Loan Value as of Sept 15, 2004)

CHOOSE FROM NO DOWNPAYMENT OR LOW AMMORTIZATION PLAN!

For inquiries please call our Lead Marketing Agents
Concorde Property: 427-7720 • Fonte Realty: 810-7912
Reach Out Realty: 983-1803 • Boomland Realty: 817-0435
Welcome Realty: 413-3313

Tel. No.: 812-PPHC (7742) or Text: 0917-812-PPHC (7742)

CONDO/TWNHSE

CAVITE

RSG GUEVENTHOMES

BACOOR only 10 mins from Baclaran!

as low as P700T

Min. 15% D/P
15% 2nd REM
70% Balance thru In-House convertible to Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

Bacoor Sales Office
531-0395 • 531-1384
(0920) 910 0000
Toll Free: 1-800-10 RSGHOME
www.guevent.com
Mirrors Sales Office
721-6508 • 721-6510
(0917) 810-8214
other sites available
Cainta, Baguio, QC

as low as P4,100/mo*
*Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

HOUSE & LOT

VARIED AREAS

RUSH SALE : 09178351002 DR. LASCANO NEAR ALFREDO'S 405SQM NEW HOUSE W /FURNITURES OWNER LEAVING BACOOD STA. MESA1640SQM HOUSE W/2STOREY BDGA ALL FURNITURES INCLUDED RIZAL AVENUE COMMERCIAL W /BLDG 216SQM 2420618 GOV. PASCUAL-MALABON 700SQM 3COMML STOREY WHOUSE, GOLDEN DALE H&L CHINKIANG PASAY WHOUSE NEAR TEMPLE-2420618 PLS CALL: 09176693336

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.1M C5 Nr The Fort 10T/mo. or 4Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mktl 0917-8313226

1.1M nr Fort & Mkti w/High Class Amenities 1-4BR 10%DP to Move-in Anne P. (0920) 236-0929

D FORT MAL Furnished P7.3M RFO 09177441292

Kensington Place 0917-5213838

MKT NR AYALA BnewTwnhse3stry/3br/2-2 1/2tb/grge P3.285M up 8903461 loc 34

P1.1M & up 1-4BR Condo 9T/MO 15MIN TO MKT OR 10% DP RFO Also ORTIGAS 8736426 / 0918-5251365

PACIFIC PLAZA 3BR 67008400

RENT to OWN! 4 only 17Kmo. 1.9M 2BR Call 0918-9384927

RFO 94sq.m w/ 2 Pkng P6.5M Global City 0917-5213838

MANILA

MALATE Furnished P3.5M Rush 09177441292

MALATE, MANILA STUDIO FA=28.40sqm PLS CALL 0918-9132396

Nr UST 4br 3tb 1cg 645-3731

NR UST, ESPANA TOWER 6873372 0917-8102903

SN ANDRES MANILA Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.355M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

Shangrila Shaw P2.1M 09177441292

Twnhse P1.6M Very Nr EDSA Call Jackie • 0917-8100721

CONDO/TWNHSE

CAVITE

PASIG

1.6M ORTIGAS AVE. RESORT-TYPE, 1st Class 2-4BR P13T/ mo. or NoDP or 0% Bess • 0917-5234223

QUEZON CITY

Alpha Victoria 0917-5213838

Tomas Morato 1BR w/Park 0917-5240606 • 928-3083

Valencia Hills 1BR 634-1212

BAGUIO

WRIGHT PARK PLACE BAGUIO 163m^2 3BR Call Cecile 872-5204 to 05

LOT

MAKATI

McKinley Hills Global City P10M 634-1212 • 0917-5213838

MANILA

1129 SQM APACIBLE COR AGONCILO •T8895608•

MANDALUYONG

Lot Edsa 400m^2 645-3731

PARANAQUE

4th ESTATE 240m^2 7158833

PASIG

Rosario 1500 / 3000m^2 645-3731

QUEZON CITY

400m^2 Capitol Park 938-9719

RIZAL

V-Golf 1973m^2@3.8M 8386645

OTHER AREAS

•TAGAYTAY VILLAS•
THE RIDGE 3M to 5M
w/ golf & club membership
536-1609 / 0917-5022722

OTHER PROVINCIAL

Angeles City LA639 Com'l 0917-5240606 • 0917-5250810

LAGUNA

Palo Alto Calamba 3Has Res. Lot P700 / SQM T8425621

LOT

LAGUNA

CABUYAO
Multi-Land 100 sqm Lots @ P3,000/sqm available on installment Plan at P5,398. 15 /Mo. Also available 32 sqm lots P3,300/sqm.
For more info Call Tess at 8160997 or 09179166285

OFFICE SPACE

RUSH 94m^2 IBM PLAZA Eastwood Libis 0920-9064895

MEMORIAL LOT

Heritage Park 634-1212

FACTORY/WHSE

200 - 3000 sqm covered warehouse Las Pinas luk 4 Beth / Evelyn 8733993

PASIG TAGIG AREA LA7439m^2 FA3000m^2 FULLY FENCED W/H2OTANK C6 ACCESS 0917-6251467 632-0129, 656-0360, 687-7325

RESORT

2.5Hec Beach Property 110M Frontage Developed Concrete Fence Ideal for Resort Retirement Homes 0917-8907654 • Brokers Ok

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

QUEZON CITY

RESDL/COML 2BR FA130sqm nr Santol & G. Araneta Ave. 7139191 / 7147867 #5 Inocando, QC.

RESDL/COML 2STY 5BR LA240sqm w/grge nr Santol & G. Araneta Ave. 7139191 / 7147867 #11 Inocando, QC.

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

Cubao 7226950-51 2-4br 8T&up

SAN JUAN

68sqm 2BR, kitchen, 2T&B w/parking Greenhills P18T/mo 0918-9006460

APARTMENT

LAS PINAS

•New 2br Grge 6T 7220943

MANILA

Apartment 4500-15000 Bedspace 1500 Ajie Joy 5610960 09204136412

GOV FORBES APT UP/DOWN CALL OFF HRS T-5233907

HONDREZ APT UP/DOWN CALL OFF HRS T5233907

QUEZON CITY

PROJ.4 2BR 439-0108 Nick

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

ROOM & BOARD

P120! Mla 4118679/7836781

P200 Sucat Pque 8275345

BEDSPACE

Mkt nr Ayala P1T BS 7257342

BUSINESS RENTAL

Cubao 7226950-51 200-300m^2 35T&up

FOR RENT COML w/Full Bath in Kamagong Mkt ASAP 8991883 / 0921-4918188

MALATE 3T/m^2 Single Storey Commercial Bldg. 843-7633/37; 843-7539

•NITE BAZAAR STALL 4 RENT•
Tomas Morato cor Roces
P10T/stall/mo 4m^2 open
from 4-12mn Hurry! Limited
7319493 / 09189236496 Mary

Dental Clinic For Sale/Lease Rm224 Atrium Bldg Makati •811-4071/823-6047•

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

BUSINES DOCTOR 524-3197

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Jollibee Plza 70.40m^2 4121825

MALATE MLA 526-8048/49

Off. Space-Alfeo :25 & 30sqm. Call Off. Hrs. 5237870

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

P/HSE CONDO 4SALE/RENT ROYALVIEW nr. GREENHILLS (0920) RSGHOME • 531-1384

MANILA

CONDO UNITS 1BR/2BR FRONT LASALLE READY CALL 7509819 OR 09173943042

OTHER REAL ESTATE

REALTORS/SEMINAR

Brokers Review 4382966

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

MITSUBISHI

'01 ADVENTURE 9488240

'01 ADVENTURE 9488240

NISSAN

★99 GTS P345,000 (neg) BNew cond 09198457226 ★

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Pajero Land Cruiser Surf Delica Vanette Trooper Terrano Town-Lite Ace Rvr Elf Canter etc Finance T-in 9120647 ; 09178342020

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

Sunflower Transport Hi-Ace Coaster 631-3496 0919-3220871

BENZ Jaguar Lincoln 6825922

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-9296

Cheap Van Rental 9330311

NISSAN Urvan 0917-5444721

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333682

VALLEY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER IS BACK!!!!

In cooperation with
SELECTIVE PERSONNEL

Search ongoing for 40 HIGHLY-COMPETENT NURSES who are CGFNS or NCLEX passers for a big hospital in U.S.

- From 19.25/hr
- All fees (CGFNS, NCLEX, IELTS, VISA SCREEN, ATTORNEY'S FEES) shouldered by the Hospital
- IMMIGRANT VISA for the whole family
- EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

For those who have IELTS or VISA SCREEN, 8 mos. processing possible
Come and experience this once in a lifetime opportunity

Manila	Interview Schedules
Unit 17M Burgundy Plaza	Oct. 9-15, 2004
Loyola Heights, Katipunan, Q.C.	9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Telefax : (02) 434-3195	Email : cmaleq@yahoo.com
Tel. 729-8888	Rm. 1602 Cecil
Cellphone 0919-2104200	Cellphone : 0919-4312107

Please bring photocopies of your documents RESUME W/ PICTURE, TRANSCRIPT, EMP. CERTS., PRC ID, EXAM RESULTS, PASSPORT, 4 pcs. passport size pictures.

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY / NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED

GIA®

Thailand Campus

World's #1 gemological institute
70+ year history of excellence in education
over 300,000 students worldwide

Become a recognized professional in the gem and jewelry industry

Diamonds Diploma Program starts January 10, 2005

GIA Thailand Campus

Bisco Tower-12th Flr., 56/12 Sub Rd., Bangrak, Bangkok Thailand
Tel: (662) 237-9575 / 77
Fax: (662) 236-9829
giathai@ksc.th.com
www.giathailand.com

Dumaguete City Water District
GROUND FLOOR, MASONIC TEMPLE, NORTH ROAD
DUMAGUETE CITY, ☎ 422-6961; 225-5016

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Project : Meter Reading, Billing and Collection System Requirements
Estimated Cost : P 1,300,000.00

Scope of Work:
1. Provide thirteen (13) units of computerized meter reading hardware, complete with back up card mobile printer and pouch bag;
2. Provide 1,000 rolls of compatible paper (thermal, etc.) for the computerized meter reading hardware and printer;
3. Systems development.

System Requirements:
1. Should be able to perform On-site Meter Reading, On-site Billing and On-site Issuance of Disconnection Notice
2. Should be light compact equipment.
3. Should be able to have a minimum of 400 consumers per reading.
4. Should be able to generate Management Report for daily, monthly or annual transactions.
5. Should be compatible to the present DCWD Billing and Collection Program.

Hardware Specifications:

Reader
1. Rugged light, water resistant and long operating life.
2. Shock and vibration resistant, screen provided with protector to prevent scratching
3. 32 MB memory which can accommodate more than 50,000 consumer readings.
4. 128 MB MMC back up memory card to ensure non-lost of data.
5. Colored and high resolution
6. Comes with water proof pouch and strap to ensure proper care and easy handling
7. Screen can accommodate up to 13 lines of information.
8. GIS/AM/FM mapping compatibility
9. Could create Word, Excel, PowerPoint presentation.
10. Playback movie, MP3, Voice memo.
11. Browse the internet, send and receive e-mails, send and receive text (SMS)
12. Optional car or truck charger.
13. Optional external keyboard.
14. Optional bar code reader.
15. Optional cell phone.
16. Optional digital camera
17. Network capabilities, infrared, bluetooth, Wi-Fi (Widely Fidelity)

Printer
1. 32 bit CPU
2. 2000 m Ah LiOn battery
3. USB Hot Sync interface
4. Option for USB communication between PDA device and PP-55
5. Integrated bar code and magnetic card reader
6. Smart card reader – option
7. Possibility for communication to external USB Master and Slave devices
8. Charging the PDA device while charging the printer.
9. Will be compatible with all present PDA

Bid forms will be made available starting October 13, 2004 upon payment of a non-refundable cost of P400.00. Submission of eligibility requirement shall be on October 28, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. after which a pre bid conference will be held at DCWD Board Room.

Only suppliers who are pre-qualified will be allowed to submit their bids. Deadline for the submission of bids to qualified bidders will be on November 10, 2004.

DCWD reserves the right to reject any or all bids to wave any formality therein, or to accept such bids or to award to any bidder whose bid is considered the lowest calculated responsive bid

(Sgd.) NESTOR O. DAQUIL
Bids and Award Committee
Chairman

Noted by
(Sgd.) ESPERATO A. DICEN
General Manager

(PDI – October 13 & 20, 2004)

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

Toyco U Drive w/ Driver All Kinds Cars Van Revo Dly. Wk.Mo. Rental 8023021-22

Van 4 hire Low Price9298376

ABC RENT A CAR
NEW CARS & VANS
PAJERO • HI-ACE
REVO • VIOS • ALTIS • STAREX
CRLA • CRV • LYNX • 536-8822
303-9789 • 426-2278 • 426-4084

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1-2% Car Loan 0917-8161276

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 533-8254

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

Republic of the Philippines
PAMANTASAN NG LUNGSOD NG MAYNILA
(University of the City of Manila)
Intramuros, Manila

PLM-BIDDING and AWARDS COMMITTEE
(PLM-BAC)

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

All interested bidders are invited to pre-qualify and participate in a sealed bidding for the project: **Laboratory Supplies for the Science Laboratory Services for the Third Quarter, 2004** of the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila.

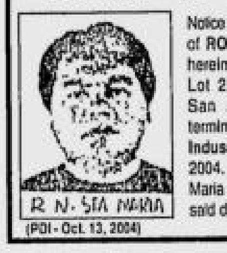
Pre-qualification documents may be obtained from the PLM-BAC Secretariat Office (Tel. No. 528-4592), after paying the corresponding participation fee of PhP200.00 (non-refundable) beginning October 13, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Duly accomplished forms together with the required pre-qualification statements/documents are to be submitted not later than 3:00 p.m. of October 27, 2004.

PLM reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids to waive any informality found therein or to accept such bids as may be considered advantageous to the University.

(Sgd.) **VIRGINIA N. SANTOS**
Chairman

(PDI - Oct. 13, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC


R N. STA MARIA

Notice is hereby given that the employment of **ROMEO N. STA. MARIA** appears herein and whose address is Blk 10, Lot 25, Villa Ricardo Magsaysay, San Antonio, Laguna, has been terminated for cause by the **Newlong Industries Phils., Inc.** as of April 29, 2004. Any transaction made by Mr. Sta. Maria on behalf of the Company after the said date will not be honored by the co.

(PDI - Oct. 13, 2004)

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/out taking car 6567685

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BUY/SELL

CAP/ PRUD PLANS 09177939632

PETS

Dog Trainer 0919-2050952

PHIL DOG SCHOOLS
Trains w/Full Guarantee Off-Leashed & Even By Signal Only Call 721-3736

ROTTWEILER PUPS 5251916

UNITED K-9 COLLEGE
Home srvc T2870717, 4843176

WANTED TO BUY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& Other Swiss Watches
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
Hi-Appraisal/Fast Cash
Repair/Polish Any Watch
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

BUY • SELL • PAWN
SWISS WATCHES
AGENCIA de MAKATI-4587017
SECONDO AYALA CENTER-8940282
OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY
"PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE"
LOW 5% INTEREST

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

NATION Pawnshop, Inc.
Pob Meyc. Bulacan will auction unredeemed pledges of April '04 on Oct. 22, '04 10am - *Lanuza & Sons*
(PDI October 13, 2004)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

earnextranow.com code:atb2004
8531008 09178901851 Arlene

earnextranow.com code:atb2004
8531008 09178901851 Arlene

EARN P10T up/week - HOW?
share d biznez 0921-5914739

Frm Asia to North America, including US Canada China & India L88 is positioned to help you develop & expand a global biz.
Log-on www.L88edc.com

NANNY

- Must have an exsting US Visa
- 28 years old above
- Caregiver or Nursing graduate

Call 912-4323

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

top-nutrition-business.com

RTW Consign 09167940002

Use your Phone Earn from home w/travel 726-3226 (9-5 Mon-Fri)

"Your GROWTH => who u are. Who u are => who u ATTRACT. Who u attract => the SUCCESS of your biz." Looking 4 a New Growing biz model with an Int'l organization? Text 09275127468 If Interested

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Security Agency & Cosmetic Surgery / Derma Clinic
631-3496 • 0919-3220871

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

INDUSTRIAL ENGR 4216808

FEMALE

ACCTG CLRK 4216808

MKTG OFF 9115997

MALE/FEMALE

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE
Earn P3,000up weekly
18yrs old above, willing to be trained, No experience req'd FREE Orientation at Rm 302 Sunrise Condo, Ortigas Av SJ
Call Jay 0927-9545771
Brendon 0917-7499447

Drugstore Sales Clerk
Coll grad w/pleasing personality 9127469/9137271

Professionals & Executives
In management, sales & marketing, education, brokerage, insurance and real estates if you are ambitious & have the interests in people development & international marketing let us guide and mentor you to success

Please email us ur cv & ur desired career SuccessCoach @ L88edc.com
log on www.L88edc.com/opportunities
Only Shortlisted Candidates will be notified

SAN JUAN POLYCLINIC
For Immediate Hiring
Lic. MedTech/Pharmacist
6830873 0917-7406218 Helen

Supreme Court of the Philippines

COMMITTEE ON HALLS OF JUSTICE
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Supreme Court invites prospective bidders to submit their eligibility requirements and participate in the public bidding, to be conducted pursuant to Republic Act No. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, for the provision of JANITORIAL AND SECURITY SERVICES for the period 01 January to 31 December 2005, for the Halls of Justice at:

CLUSTER III

1. Angeles City, Pampanga
2. Balanga, Bataan
3. Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
4. Camiling Tarlac
5. Capas, Tarlac
6. Dinalupihan, Bataan
7. Gerona, Tarlac
8. Iba, Zambales
9. Malolos, Bulacan
10. Morong Bataan
11. Olongapo City
12. Palayan City, Nueva Ecija
13. Paniqui, Tarlac
14. San Fernando, Pampanga
15. San Jose City, Nueva Ecija
16. San Jose del Monte, Bulacan
17. Sto. Domingo, Nueva Ecija
18. Tarlac City
19. Victoria, Tarlac

CLUSTER VI

1. Bacolod City
2. Bago City, Negros Occidental
3. Bais City, Negros Occidental
4. Banga, Aklan
5. Barotac Viejo, Iloilo
6. Binalbagan, Negros Occidental
7. Dumangas, Iloilo
8. Guimbal, Iloilo
9. Iloilo City
10. Janiuay, Iloilo
11. Kalibo, Aklan
12. La Carlota, Negros Occidental
13. Malinao, Aklan
14. Mambusao, Capiz
15. Pototan, Iloilo
16. Roxas City, Capiz
17. Sagay, Negros Occidental
18. San Carlos City, Negros Occidental
19. San Jose, Antique
20. Victorias City, Negros Occidental

CLUSTER IX

1. Aurora, Zamboanga del Sur
2. Dipolog City, Zamboanga del Norte
3. Ipil, Zamboanga del Sur
4. Isabela, Basilan
5. Jolo, Sulu
6. Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur
7. Molave, Zamboanga del Sur
8. Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur
9. San Miguel, Zamboanga del Sur
10. Sandangan, Zamboanga del Norte
11. Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte
12. Tambulig, Zamboanga del Norte
13. Zamboanga City

CLUSTER X

1. Balingasag, Misamis Oriental
2. Buenavista, Agusan del Norte
3. Butuan City, Agusan del Norte
4. Cagayan de Oro City
5. Dapa, Surigao del Norte
6. Gingoog City, Misamis Oriental
7. Initao, Misamis Oriental
8. Kinoguitan, Misamis Oriental
9. Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte
10. Loreto, Surigao del Norte
11. Mambajao, Camiguin
12. Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon
13. Medina, Misamis Oriental
14. Nasipit, Agusan del Norte
15. Oroquieta City, Misamis Occidental
16. Ozamis City, Misamis Occidental
17. Surigao City, Surigao del Norte
18. Tangub City, Misamis Occidental

CLUSTER XII

(Janitorial Services only)

1. Iligan City, Lanao del Norte
2. Kabacan, North Cotabato
3. Kidapawan, North Cotabato
4. Marawi City, Lanao del Sur

The approved budgets for the Clusters are as follows:

	Janitorial	Security
Cluster III	P 6,829,951.20	P 17,899,522.32
Cluster VI	4,651,020.36	11,329,781.76
Cluster IX	2,483,022.12	6,499,239.72
Cluster X	2,680,128.00	9,841,001.88
Cluster XII	1,031,140.56	-0-
TOTAL	P 17,675,262.24	P 45,569,545.68

This is to be charged against the budget released for the Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses for the Halls of Justice, Supreme Court.

Janitorial and Security services shall be bid out separately. Those bidding for more than one cluster shall file separate bids for each cluster.

Eligibility requirements and the bid forms shall be made available during the Pre-Bid Conference. Said documents will be furnished the prospective bidders after payment of a non-refundable amount of P1000.00 for each Cluster and services they intend to bid for.

I. PRE-BID CONFERENCE

The pre-bid conference for both Janitorial and Security Services shall be on 14 October 2004, 9:00 a.m. at the Old Session Hall, Third Floor, Supreme Court, Padre Faura St., Malate.

II. SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS and OPENING OF BIDS

Submission of Eligibility Requirements and Bids for Janitorial Services shall be on 26 October 2004, Tuesday from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. at the Old Session Hall, Third Floor, Supreme Court, Padre Faura St., Manila.

Submission of Eligibility Requirements and Bids for Security Services shall be on 27 October 2004, Wednesday, from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. also at the Old Session Hall of the Supreme Court.

Only the bids of eligible bidders will be opened in the presence of the bidders. The opening of bids shall be done right after the checking of the eligibility requirements.

The award shall be made not only on the basis of the bid price but also on the sufficiency of the supplies, equipment and administrative supervision to be provided.

The Supreme Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids or offers which it may consider to be disadvantageous and not beneficial to the Court or waive any defect or informality therein.

6 October 2004

(Sgd.) DCA CHRISTOPHER O. LOCK
Chairman, CHOJ-BAC

PDI - October 6 & 13, 2004)

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
Diliman, Quezon City

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SALE OF UNSERVICEABLE ITEMS

"AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS

DATE OF BIDDING : October 28, 2004, 2:00 PM, Solarium Hall, Building-1 Ground Floor NPC-Head Office, Agham Road corner Quezon Ave., Diliman, Q.C.

The National Power Corporation will conduct public bidding for the sale of the following items:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	MIN. BID PRICE
1	One (1) lot Unserviceable, scrap, junk and used items consisting of engine parts, steel plate cuttings, pipes, empty drums, corroded GI sheets, steel tables, engine motor, water tank and discarded tires. Located at General Santos DPP.	P 400,000.00 Per Lot
2	One (1) lot: Unserviceable and used Fuel Oil Tanks, Two (2) units, made of black iron, 90 cu. m. capacity. Located at Mooring Site, Naga Power Plant Complex in Cebu Province.	P 88,500.00 Per Lot
3	One (1) lot: Unserviceable and junk items consisting of 102 pieces of Pielstick Diesel Engine parts and scrap metals. Located at Naga Power Plant Complex, Cebu Province.	P 265,200.00 Per Lot
4	One (1) lot. Unserviceable and junk items consisting of Crank Shaft, Steel Beams and Steel Pipes / Posts. Located at ZAMSURECO Tiguma Substation, Pagadian City.	P 78,000.00 Per Lot
5	One (1) lot: Used / Waste Oil, approximately 170 drums, drums included in the sale. Located at ZAMSURECO Tiguma Substation, Pagadian City.	P 102,000.00 Per Lot

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

1. PROPOSAL BOND DEPOSIT IN THE FORM OF CASH OR MANAGER'S/CASHIER'S CHECK EQUIVALENT TO TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE TOTAL BID PRICE.
2. LATEST INCOME TAX RETURN 2003 ORIGINAL (OR CERTIFIED XEROX COPY) FOR THE BIDDER OR AN AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT (ORIGINAL) OF THE COMPANY.
3. BIDDER FOR ITEM NO. 5 IS REQUIRED TO PRESENT ACCREDITATION AS EMB-DENR TRANSPORTER AND OR TREATER, WITH PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PERMIT TO TRANSPORT, MANIFEST FORM AND TREATMENT CERTIFICATE.

All interested parties who wish to secure bid forms for this public bidding must present a valid Tax Identification Card or Income Tax Return.

Interested parties who wish to participate in the public bidding may secure the bid form at P500.00/set from Mr. S.V. Lomuntad, Jr. at Bldg. 1, Ground Floor, NPC Head Office, Corner Agham Road and Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City or call telephone no. 924-5384. Deadline for issuance of the bid forms is until 4:30 PM October 27, 2004.

For the Materials Management Department
(Sgd.) FELIX B. TACATA, JR.
OIC, MMD

(PDI - October 13, 14 & 15 2004)

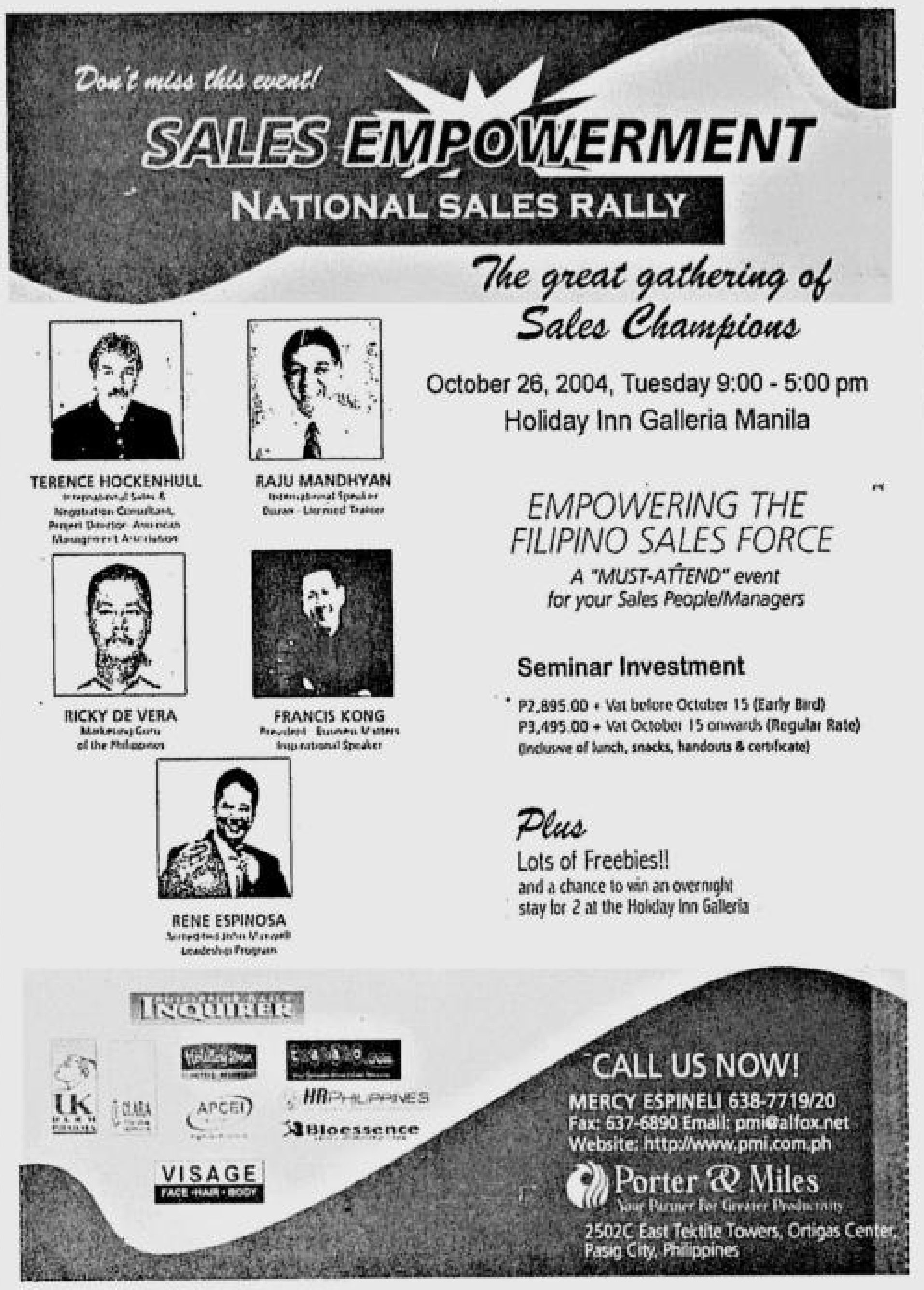
NOTICE OF LOSS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Plates Nos. NWC-466; NVH-196; NYV-151; NYH-186; PWP-636; PWZ-628; PWW-435; PWP-825; registered in the name of Sunrich Transport Service/CERILO & MARITES RUIZ was declared lost and could not be located; as per affidavit dated Sept. 24, 2004 bearing Doc. No. 8066; Page No. 1714, Book No. 17; Series of 2004.

(PDI - Oct 13 2004)

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising HOTLINES:

HEAD OFFICE: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425
897-2535, 897-8425 (Telefax);
CUBAO: 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora);
MAKATI: 892-5578, 811-4361, 811-4370;
KALAW: 522-4406, 527-3342;
MEGAMALL: 635-0219, 635-0220



October 26, 2004, Tuesday 9:00 - 5:00 pm
Holiday Inn Galleria Manila

TERENCE HOCKENHULL
International Sales & Negotiation Consultant, Project Director - [illegible] Management Association

RAJU MANDHYAN
International Speaker
Guru - Licensed Trainer

RICKY DE VERA
Marketing Guru of the Philippines

FRANCIS KONG
President - Business Matters
Inspirational Speaker

RENE ESPINOSA
Accredited John Maxwell Leadership Program

EMPOWERING THE FILIPINO SALES FORCE
A "MUST-ATTEND" event for your Sales People/Managers

Seminar Investment
P2,895.00 + Vat before October 15 (Early Bird)
P3,495.00 + Vat October 15 onwards (Regular Rate)
(inclusive of lunch, snacks, handouts & certificate)

Plus
Lots of Freebies!!
and a chance to win an overnight stay for 2 at the Holiday Inn Galleria

CALL US NOW!
MERCY ESPINELI 638-7719/20
Fax: 637-6890 Email: pmi@alfox.net
Website: http://www.pmi.com.ph
Porter & Miles
Your Partner for Greater Productivity
2502C East Tektite Towers, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines

---

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Invitation to Bid

Offered for Public Bidding on "per lot" and on an "as-is, where-is" basis are six (6) parcels of land located within the Food Terminal, Inc. (FTI) FTI Complex, Taguig City.

These assets are offered at the following Indicative Prices:

Lot No.	Particulars	Indicative Price
1	land (4,501 sq.m.)	P 72,016,000
5	Land (8,957 sq.m.) building and improvements	151,258,000
8	land (395 sq.m.) building and improvements	7,711,000
11	Land (432 sq.m.) building and improvements	7,099,000
18	Land (6,022 sq.m.)	96,352,000
20	Land (1,753 sq.m.) building and improvements	32,245,000

Bids will be received, opened and tabulated in the presence of the bidders on **November 17, 2004** at 3:00 p.m. at the PMO Conference Room, 6th Floor, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Interested parties may secure the sale documents for a nominal fee of P1,500.00 from the PMO Marketing Office.

For more information, please call Mr. Carlo T. Subong of the PMO Marketing Department at Telephone Numbers 892-2145 or 818-8305.

(PDI - Oct. 13, 14 & 15, 2004)

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
P.O. Box 789, Manila, Philippines
6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, Philippines
Tel. 632-4407; Fax No. (638) 632-2567
Email: psantiago@adb.org or sisanga@adb.org

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR ADB'S ENHANCED SECURITY ACCESS CONTROL PROJECT (CIVIL WORKS INCLUDING SUPPLY OF SECURITY-RELATED EQUIPMENT)

Contract No. ADB/OAS-2004/059

1. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), a multilateral development finance institution headquartered in Manila, Philippines, invites interested parties to apply for pre-qualification in the bidding of ADB's Enhanced Security Access Control Project. This project will seek contractors in the area of civil works and supply of security-related equipment as detailed below.
2. The Contractor shall construct the appropriate structures and install/supply the relevant security-related equipment, materials, tools, equipment, labor and supervision necessary for building and constructing the Enhanced Security Access Control Facilities to be located at ADB Visitor's Entry/Exit Screening Facilities & Lobbies Enhancement Project located at the ADB Headquarters Building, 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila in accordance with the plans, specifications, policies, standards and procedures established by ADB. The project consists of but not limited to the following: construction of new building and screening facilities for three access points namely: (i) ADB Avenue entrance with fixed bollards; (ii) Guadix Gate entrance; and (iii) Bank Drive entrance with fixed bollards; enhancement of the main and west lobbies.
3. The project will also cover provisions for the supply and installation of Security System components namely (i) Heavy Duty security booms at driveway entry/exit points; (ii) Automatic Electro-mechanical retractable bollards at Bank Drive entry/exit point; (iii) Walk-through scanner and X-ray bag screening; and (iv) Cantilevered gates. The Contractor shall be required to use Security System components that are compatible with the standards and specifications currently in use within the ADB Headquarters. The Contractor will be further responsible for the following works. (a) relocation of trees and vegetation affected by the project; (b) repair and touch up of all areas affected during the execution of the Works; (c) clean-up; and (d) turnover of project. The contractor is expected to supply and install the abovementioned security system components by itself or through joint venture partners or specialist subcontractors.
4. This invitation is open to firms from ADB member countries who meet the minimum requirements specified in the pre-qualification documents. The minimum criteria for pre-qualification are detailed in the "Business Opportunities" page of the ADB website: www.adb.org.
5. Pre-qualification documents may be obtained from the Head, Contracts Administration, Institutional Services Division, Office of Administrative Services (OAS), Room 4221N at the abovementioned address starting from 13 October 2004 (during office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).
6. Applications must be delivered to Head, Contracts Administration, Institutional Services Division, Office of Administrative Services (OAS), Room 4221N. The deadline for submission of applications must be received not later than 4:00 p.m. of 26 October 2004. ADB reserves the right to accept or reject late applications.
7. The invitation to Bid are expected to be issued in the 2nd week of November 2004, and bidding documents shall only be issued to the Applicants who have been pre-qualified. ADB reserves the right to postpone issuance of bidding documents, without providing reasons therefor.
8. ADB will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred of Applicants in connection with the preparation and submission of their Applications.

(Sgd.) CECILE L.H.F. GREGORY
CHAIRPERSON
INSTITUTIONAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(PDI - Oct. 13 & 14, 2004)

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO
"The newly opened Mortuary & Crematory at the Heritage Park"
Memorial Park
Mortuary
Viewing Chapels
Crematory
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Trunk Line: (632) 845-2334 to 38

OBITUARIES

RATE
P245 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

"Surely, goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever". Psalm 23:6

Our Dearly Beloved

DAVID "Dave" P. LLORENTE

went home to be with the Lord
on October 9, 2004 at the age of 55.

His wife **Lynn**, children **Daniel** & wife **Ginni**, **Abigail** & **Joshua**, his loving mother **Veneranda**, brothers **Rod**, **Julius** and **Ceasar**, sister **Esther**, other relatives, in-laws and friends praise the Almighty God for his rich legacy of love, humility and dedication to family, church ministry and career.

His body lies in state at the Agoncillo Chapel, La Funeraria Paz, Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City. Interment will be on Saturday, 16 October 2004 at 10:00 A.M. at the Manila Memorial Park after the necrological services.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the PARKWAY'S MISSION BAPTIST CHURCH would be appreciated.

William (Billy) Singleton Sanchez

Peacefully passed away
at the age of twenty-seven years

May 7, 1977 – October 9, 2004

We, his parents **Ed** and **Kathy**; brothers and sisters-in-law **James Edward** and **Irene**, **Rick** and **Carla**; niece **Daphne**; uncles, aunts, and cousins, request our relatives and friends, Billy's many friends, and readers, to join us in wishing for his eternal rest in peace.

His final act in this world is to give his body to those who need it most. His remains will then be cremated in St. Louis, Missouri, USA.

ANGELITO (Lito) GUILLERMO TIONGSON

Peacefully made his journey back to the loving embrace of our Creator on October 10, 2004 at the age of 51.

His wife **Maloy**, children **Diwa** and **Gio**, father **Catalino**, siblings **Doris**, **Ely**, **Meggy**, **Vangie**, **Jun**, **Claro**, **David**, **Romy** and **Louie** and their families, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Jesus Lord of the Divine Mercy Parish Church at Mapayapa Village 1 (near BF Homes) in Quezon City.

His remains will be cremated on October 17 at the Funeraria Paz Crematory along Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

EMILIANA URETA PASTRANA

Peacefully joined our Creator on October 11, 2004 at the age of 96.

A loving wife to her husband **Mariano, Sr.** (†) and caring mother to her children and children-in-law, **Dr. Thelma**, **Publio** (†) & **Nita Pansacola**, **Mariano, Jr.** (†) & **Nerie Romulo** & **Betty**, **Nitz** & **Aurora Baronia**, **Dr. Godo** & **Shirley**, **Rico** & **Mona Eleazar**, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Her remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will take place on Saturday, October 16, 2004 at Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches, Quezon City.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate;
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. ***John 14:6***

MANUEL "Manny" O. MALLARE, JR.

of Gapan City, Nueva Ecija

Peacefully joined our Lord
on October 11, 2004 at the age of 49.

His loving wife **Rebecca C. Azarcon**; children **Jose Paolo**, **Reginald**, **Beatrice Diane**; brother **Alexander** & **Marina Tiongson**; niece **Patricia Ann** and nephew **Luis Ignacio**; other relatives and friends request the pious readers for their prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Mallare's Residence – Gapan City, Nueva Ecija.

Interment will be on Thursday, October 14, 2004 at the Gapan City Cemetery after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Three Kings Parish Church.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Twenty-fifth Death Anniversary
October 13, 2004

Justice CALIXTO O. ZALDIVAR

Masses will be offered at 10:00 AM today at all churches of the Philippine Independent Church in Antique. His children request their relatives, friends and pious readers to remember **Justice Zaldivar** in their prayers.

Memories

"Memory is a way of holding onto the persons you love, the person you are, the love ones you never want to lose."

The **INQUIRER NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS** brings forth – *Memories* – a tabloid-sized supplement to be published on **October 29, 2004** in time for the remembrance of our beloved loved ones.

This supplement will be dedicated to pre-need plans, funeral homes, memorial parks and other product/services related to death care. This endeavor will give you a chance to showcase your product lines and the attributes that your services offer.

AD SIZE	RATES
FULL PAGE	54,862.50
HALF PAGE	27,431.25
¼ PAGE	13,715.63
1/8 PAGE	6,857.81

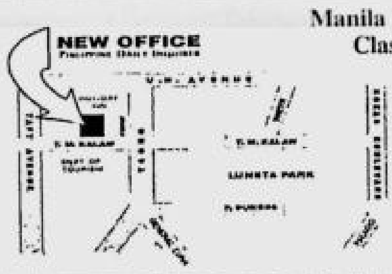
Backed by the most read broadsheet in the land, this promises to be a most cost efficient and effective venture.

Should you have questions please contact Ms. Adela Mendoza, our Account Executive, at 912-9008 to 11 or e-mail us at agarcia@inquirer.com.ph.

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Manila Branch is open to serve your Classified Ads requirements.



MANILA BRANCH
G/F TRINITY BLDG.,
836 T.M. KALAW ST.,
ERMITA, MANILA
TEL. NO.: 527-3342 / 522-4406
Contact Persons: Babes, Eric & Grig

DIONI BUCCAT

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

‘I am no longer excited about my job!’

By Tita Datu Puangco

Advice
FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

I AM A MANAGER in my current company, where my performance so far has been satisfactory. However, I have lost my excitement for my current work and I seriously feel that I must find another job that will fit my personality. My work involves management of more than 30 employees, and the pace is fast and leaves me no time alone to think. I am an analytical person and I believe that I do not fit this job. Please advise me. Is there any test that I can take to determine the kind of job that I can effortlessly handle and where I will be happy?

Thank you very much!

Confused Employee

You can try taking the Myer Briggs Personality Test to find out more about yourself. It provides an assessment on whether you are an extrovert or introvert, a feeler or thinker, etc. This test can provide you valuable insights into your personality and your areas of possible strengths and weaknesses.

I agree that you need to discover where your talents lie. A recent book entitled, "First Break the Rules" by Marcus Buckingham and Curt Coffman of the Gallup Organization is very interesting. It is based on in-depth interviews of over 80,000 managers in over 400 companies trying to find out what the world's greatest managers do differently. And here are its discoveries.

One, great managers select people for talent, not simply experience, intelligence or determi nation. They believe every role, performed at excellence level require talent. Talent is defined as a "recurring pattern of thought, feeling or behavior that can be productively applied." The key to excellent performance is finding the match between your talents and your role.

Two, when setting expectations, great managers define the right outcomes, not the right steps. The manager's role is mainly that of catalyst. The manager must retain control and focus on people performance. But he or she also knows that individual employees can decide what to do and not to do. No matter how one selects for talent, people come with their own style, own needs and motivations.

Third, when motivating someone, great managers focus on strengths, not on weaknesses. They believe that people don't change that much. Efforts are best applied on the person's innate talents. Don't waste time trying to put in what was left out. The talents are the mental pathways that act as filters that produce the recurring pattern of behaviors that make people unique. Talents define where a person will excel and where he or she will struggle. This does not mean that a person cannot change or acquire new skills and knowledge. What it means is that a person would have extreme difficulty converting his or her non-talents into talents.

Fourth, when developing someone, great managers help the person find the right fit, not simply promoting him or her to the next higher organizational level. Great managers also know that the best way to develop an employee is to find a role that utilizes those talents. Each person has to cultivate his or her own set of talents. They believe that some people are wired to excel in particular roles and to derive enduring satisfaction from doing it well. Every role performed with excellence is noble and deserves respect.

Great managers suggest that we don't promote people to their "level of incompetence." Before promoting someone, look closely at talents needed to excel in the role. Try to analyze the fit between the demands of the role and the talent of the person. You may still choose promotion but you will know in what areas to provide effective support.

I hope these tips enable you to become a better manager. At the same time, they can help you start your quest towards discovering the right job to suit your talents.

Good luck and God speed!

(Ms Puangco is CEO and chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send feedback through e-mail to advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax to* 892-2902.)

Breaks are needed to become whole again

WORKING MOM
Gina Abuyuan-Llanes

IT IS 6 p.m., Friday. Francine Medina-Marquez, Working Mom managing editor, and I are stuck in traffic. We're drained from three consecutive days of shoots (and waking up at 6 a.m.!), and are psyching ourselves up for yet another one the next day. "Let's go home *na*," we agree. "We need to rest for tomorrow."

Our agreement, of course, leads to musing on how nice it would be to get a massage—maybe even just a foot or head massage will do—which leads us to scouting for the perfect spa with the perfect price with the perfect service. An hour and a half later, we're sitting side by side, looking like contented *siopaos* in a steam room. We do a double take at each other, like a miracle had just occurred, and say our favorite line when things turn out in the most unexpected manner: "Cut to ... *nasa* steam room na *tayo!*"

And again two hours after: "Cut to ... *nagsa*-sashimi na *tayo sa* Teriyaki Boy!"

Francine and I have a lot of "cut-to" moments. One of our favorites is when, after another shoot, we are invited by Eliza Romualdez-Valtos to her place for some wine. "Oh thank you. but we can't stay long *ha*," we demur, as we admire the sunset from her living room window.

Cut to: we're all giddy on the excellent red, eating dinner with her and husband Billy, and planning a trip to Ilocos. When we exit, we, and our stylist, Rica decide it would be nice to have some tea to flush the alcohol out of our systems. Of course we decide on the place with the most to-die-for desserts: Bizu.

After which: we're in Café Havana, with mojitos in our hands and mint leaves between our teeth. "Oh. Kay. Now, weren't we supposed to just have tea?!" we ask ourselves.

You need these breathers

It's funny, these unforeseen "breaks." You never know when they'll come; and where they'll take you. They're also what keep us sane. Really. In a world where deadlines tumble all over each other, where "multi-tasking" is an understatement, and where schedules are unpredictable, these little breathers keep us on even keel. "*Siguro 'pag wala tayong mga* breaks *na ganito, patay na tayo*," says Francine as we eat our sashimi. I totally agree.

During another cut-to moment, we are at Casa Armas in Greenbelt—which we have christened "the center of the universe," because at any given time, a colleague saunters by and briefs us on the latest. But this isn't "just" a break—it's a sub-category we call *lawak utak* or *lawak isip*, terms I picked up from Working Mom's Founding Editor, An Alcantara. Her father, Antonio Mercado, founded Basic Advertising, and *lawak utak* is a regular exercise the employees do to, well, break the monotony of work and literally open their minds to more ideas and broaden their perspective.

People may think being in a magazine is glamorous and adventurous—and it is, sometimes—but if you're not careful, you can get stuck with doing the tasks like a machine. People may also think working for a mammoth corporation such as ABS-CBN is glamorous-sure, it is, at times—but again, if you're not careful, its sheer vastness and power will overwhelm you. It can suck you in, like a vortex. You end up cloistered. Creativity suffers. You lose touch with your readers. And in a way, yourself.

Breaks to strengthen us

So there we sit, no guilt, no shame. We have *callos* and bread and sip cold beer and appreciate how well the Ayalas have turned this area of the metro around. We ogle at the festive window displays and understand that metallics are in for the holidays; we check out the bookstores and see what's selling. And best, we recall the events that lead us to meet different working moms and hear their stories—how one mom gave up a high profile modeling career to have a baby after two miscarriages; how another once lived a "Godfather" lifestyle, got sick of cancer, and how she changed her life after a miraculous recovery; how another found out her husband was cheating and never said anything "for the sake of the kids."

More than the "cut-to" moments in spas and fancy restaurants (though those are nice, too), I guess this is what really makes Francine and I-and I'm sure other women in careers as fast-paced and public as ours—stay sane in our jobs, amidst the twirly schedules and crazy hours. It's the connections we make—during a lapse in a shoot while we wait for the sun to come out, or post-interview coffee when the tape recorder is put away-with a myriad individuals, all with their own, Booker prize-worthy stories. It's the exchanges of wisdom and energy; of experiences and ideas; of lessons and realizations mirrored back at us by total strangers. It's the invitation God and the universe presents us with, every time, when we think we've been drained of oomph and need something to remind us just how good we have it.

"Come," He seems to say, like He Himself is taking us by the hand and about to introduce us to a new friend. "I'd like you to meet someone (or something) that will make a difference in your life—no matter how small you may think it is."

These are the "cut-to's" that assure us that we don't fade out.

(Gina Abuyuan-Llanes is editor in chief of Working Mom magazine, which has got a fab new look! Check out the buntis issue, with the alluring Eula Valdez on the cover. For more on the beautiful souls we meet-such as the three moms in prison, one of whom raised her child from jail—get the October issue of Working Mom now. Feedback is welcome at gina_llanes@abs.pinoycentral.com.)

Blanchard bats for makeovers for managers

WORKING WOUNDED
Bob Rosner

BLANCHARD GRABOWBIZ

DEAR Readers: On occasion, I break from the regular format to bring you an interview with a business legend. Recently, I interviewed Ken Blanchard, chief spiritual officer of the Blanchard Company. He's written 16 best-selling books, including "The One Minute Manager" (Berkeley, 1993), which has sold over nine million copies in 25 different languages.

Working Wounded (WW): If we could give you a magic wand, what changes would you make at work?

Ken Blanchard (KB): I would have every manager hit by lightning, causing their self-esteem to improve 100 percent. I think the biggest problem in the workplace is people who are running organizations, who don't get that they are absolutely beautiful just the way they are—God didn't make any junk. Too many managers push and shove for money, power, status and recognition. That's how they determine who they are, rather than being comfortable with who they really are, serving and helping others, and developing loving relationships.

WW: How do the self-esteem problems of the managers affect workers?

KB: People with low self-esteem are reluctant to share power or credit. They are reluctant to build anyone else up. Take the concept of praising: I ask people all the time, how many of you are sick and tired of all the compliments you're getting at work and wish they would stop? And, of course, they all laugh. I ask people how they know whether they are doing a good job and the number one response is, "Nobody's chewed me out lately." Managers with low self-esteem more often than not are seagull managers—they never pay attention to what people are doing until there's a problem. Then, they fly in, make a lot of noise, dump on everybody and fly out. That's not a very fun or productive way of managing others.

WW: Can you give us an example of effective management?

KB: Chick-fil-A is a fast food company that sells chicken, mainly in the southeast. They have over 900 restaurants with less than five percent turnover among their managers and 50 percent lower turnover with hourly employees than anyone in the fast food business. How do they do that? They first take care of their people. On Sundays, every restaurant is closed because their culture says that family time is their priority. Their president said in a speech to all his managers something that I've never heard from any other top manager in the country: "If you're going to err with our people, please err on the side of mercy." To me, that's great leadership. Since they create a caring environment for their people, their people take care of their customers and their cash register goes ka-ching!, ka-ching!, ka-ching!

WW: What is the secret behind your success?

KB: I always keep my head up, looking for opportunities. I want to be remembered as an educational pioneer. Just about the time the enemy surrounds my camp and swoops in to take it over, all they will find is warm ashes because I'll have already gone somewhere else.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: What is most important to your boss? (1,823 ballots)

—Her stock options/bonus, 14.2 percent

—Supporting his people, 18.8 percent

—Serving our customers, 26.7 percent

—Her ego, 40.1 percent

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

Broadcast icon takes path less traveled to help abused ...

From page B12

ma supervises and directs every activity and event in the foundation. She spearheads its different programs including child protection services, residential services, foster care, community and family and support services. Monzon-Palma also manages the social workers, caregivers, volunteers, benefactors and supporters of the foundation.

Fragile group

Every foundation advocates an underprivileged or disadvantaged set but Monzon-Palma believes that Bantay Bata's beneficiaries are more vulnerable and helpless as compared to other groups. For her, dealing with children is more challenging simply because they are fragile, innocent and dependent. Bantay Bata tackles this challenge by looking at it in a different angle. "There is a little more challenge but it is also easier because the child is so fragile. It's easy to love a child. Although it might be difficult to see a kid cope with the crisis, there is a lot more hope because the child will still grow up. There is still time to help," says Monzon-Palma.

It is every child's right to have a happy nurturing environment, where he or she will be allowed to grow to his or her fullest potential. A great fraction of our children, however, do not benefit from this right. Many children, even infants, suffer from neglect, malnutrition, abuse and unimaginable violation of rights. "Every case as you listen to it becomes more horrific because of the circumstances," shares Monzon-Palma.

Public awareness

For Bantay Bata's program director, the most unthinkable crime against children is abuse of their own parents. Studies show that most parents who inflict harm against their own offspring often experienced violence during their own childhood. "This is a cycle that we want to be able to break. We want for each parent to understand the different developmental stages of children and for the parents to understand their own developmental stages because that is where the usual crisis comes."

Bantay Bata's thrust is not to work on the children alone. The foundation also aims to educate the public and the families on the role of family relationships in every child's development. Monzon-Palma is grateful because the foundation has the strong support of the media. With ABS-CBN, she and her group get the message across faster. This is also a good setup for her because the position does not steer her far from what she does best. "I thought this was a wonderful job offer because I could use my management skills as well as my television background."

A day in the life

A mother of three herself, she gets up before six to send off her 15-year old to school. It is a wonder how she could balance all her programs together while taking care of a small household, 205 scholars, a staff of 168, countless volunteers and hundreds of children who need her attention. "The balance comes easy when you know what your priorities are," she explains. "It's not difficult when you know what you want to do, you more or less know your capacity in what you can do and when you know there's a limit to what you can do."

Her employees claim that she is in the office even before the janitors. She likes being in early because it gives her time to check on things without the distractions of the hustle and bustle of a usual work day. A self-confessed obsessive compulsive, she claims sometimes her staff gets frazzled with her over attention to detail. "As a boss I am tough, I am very exacting, I have standards that sometimes cannot be bent." Her steadfast leadership has resulted to boundless gains for the children.

Monzon-Palma realizes that her job allows her to help in a more direct way. "Not just donating and giving money but actually helping the kids, helping raise money and following up where this kids are going after you've helped. It's a long process of really being more involved," she says.

She does not, however, see herself doing this forever. Soon she would like to find the time to nurture the child in her, who has long been dormant due to the adult responsibilities she willingly took on. "I'm excited to figure out where things will lead me. I've been working for too long. Maybe I'll take up jazz or go back to theater."

PEOPLE at WORK

Text us your feedback: inquirer paw name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Subsection Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Broadcast icon takes path less traveled to help abused children

PALMA

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

CAREER TALES

EDIELYN is only one of six children of a struggling fish vendor. With a mentally and emotionally unstable mother, she had to take on the maternal role for her siblings while juggling school and a part-time job. But that was the past. Edielyn is now beaming with pride, hope and gratitude. She recently graduated from high school with the help of Bantay Edukasyon, a scholarship project under Bantay Bata 163. The next step is college but she has little worries because she has Tina Monzon-Palma on her side.

Different route

She and seven other fresh graduates have Tina Monzon-Palma, program director of Bantay Bata 163, helping them out in their hopes for higher education. Bantay Bata is a media-based intervention program that is aimed to protect and nurture children. "For me, the most desperate and sad thing is for a child to feel unattended to and not loved by people around him," says the program director. This is one of the reasons why Monzon-Palma has been with the foundation for over a decade to rescue and rehabilitate abandoned or abused children.

Monzon-Palma was once chief operating officer of ABC Channel 5 and before that, senior vice president for News and Current Affairs of GMA 7. After several fruitful years in the broadcasting arena, Monzon-Palma was ready to retire until Gina Lopez of ABS-CBN Foundation offered her an opportunity to explore a different undertaking. "I thought at that point I wanted to stop working. I've been working all my life."

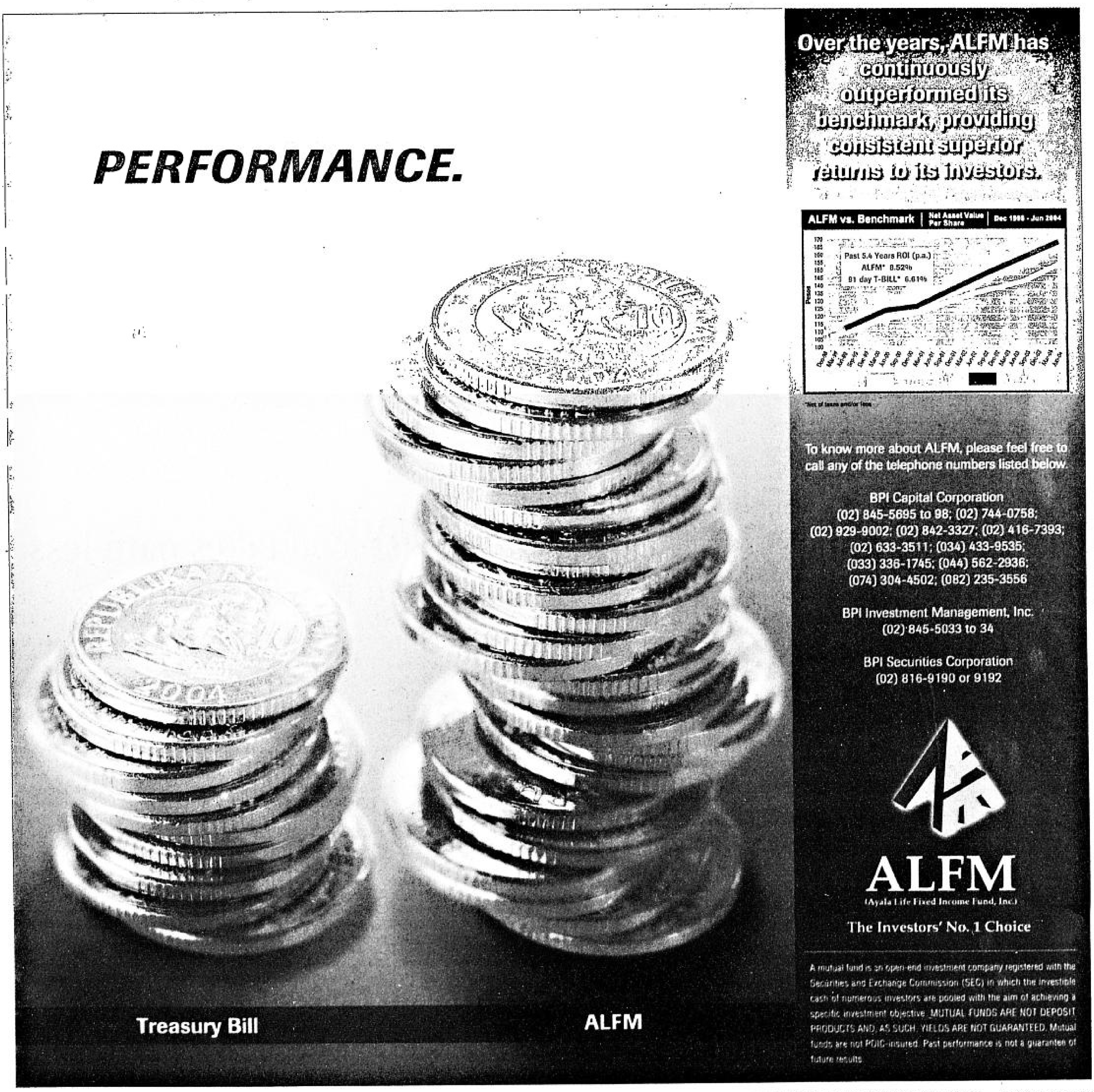
Lopez was then involved in the Southeast Asian Children's Television Fund and sought the help of Monzon-Palma to come up with quality shows for the youth. Monzon-Palma willingly took on the challenge because it offered her a chance to explore a new venue without straying far from media. This collaboration gave birth to Bantay Bata.

Program director

The all around news personality is also the host of "Talkback" aired over ABS-CBN News Channel 21 and PAKSA Radio Program on dzMM. She is also co-anchor of "The World Tonight" on ABS-CBN. But with all her broadcast duties, Bantay Bata 163 is still her number one child. "There are certain days of your life when you want to chase different dreams. You find out that you actually don't need all the perks and a fat compensation package. You just actually want to be able to do something that makes you realize the better side of life," she explains.

As program director, Monzon-Pal-

BROADCAST/B11


PERFORMANCE.
Over the years, ALFM has continuously outperformed its benchmark, providing consistent superior returns to its investors.
ALFM vs. Benchmark
Net Asset Value Per Share
Dec 1998 - Jun 2004
Past 5.4 Years ROI (p.a.)
ALFM* 8.52%
91 day T-BILL* 6.61%
Pesos
*Net of taxes and/or fees
Treasury Bill
ALFM

To know more about ALFM, please feel free to call any of the telephone numbers listed below.

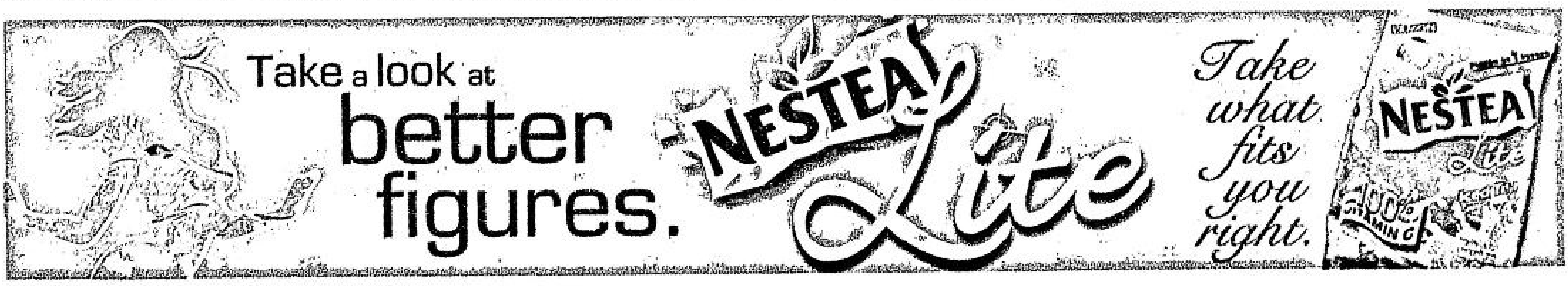
BPI Capital Corporation
(02) 845-5695 to 98; (02) 744-0758;
(02) 929-9002; (02) 842-3327; (02) 416-7393;
(02) 633-3511; (034) 433-9535;
(033) 336-1745; (044) 562-2936;
(074) 304-4502; (082) 235-3556

BPI Investment Management, Inc.
(02) 845-5033 to 34

BPI Securities Corporation
(02) 816-9190 or 9192

ALFM
(Ayala Life Fixed Income Fund, Inc.)
The Investors' No. 1 Choice

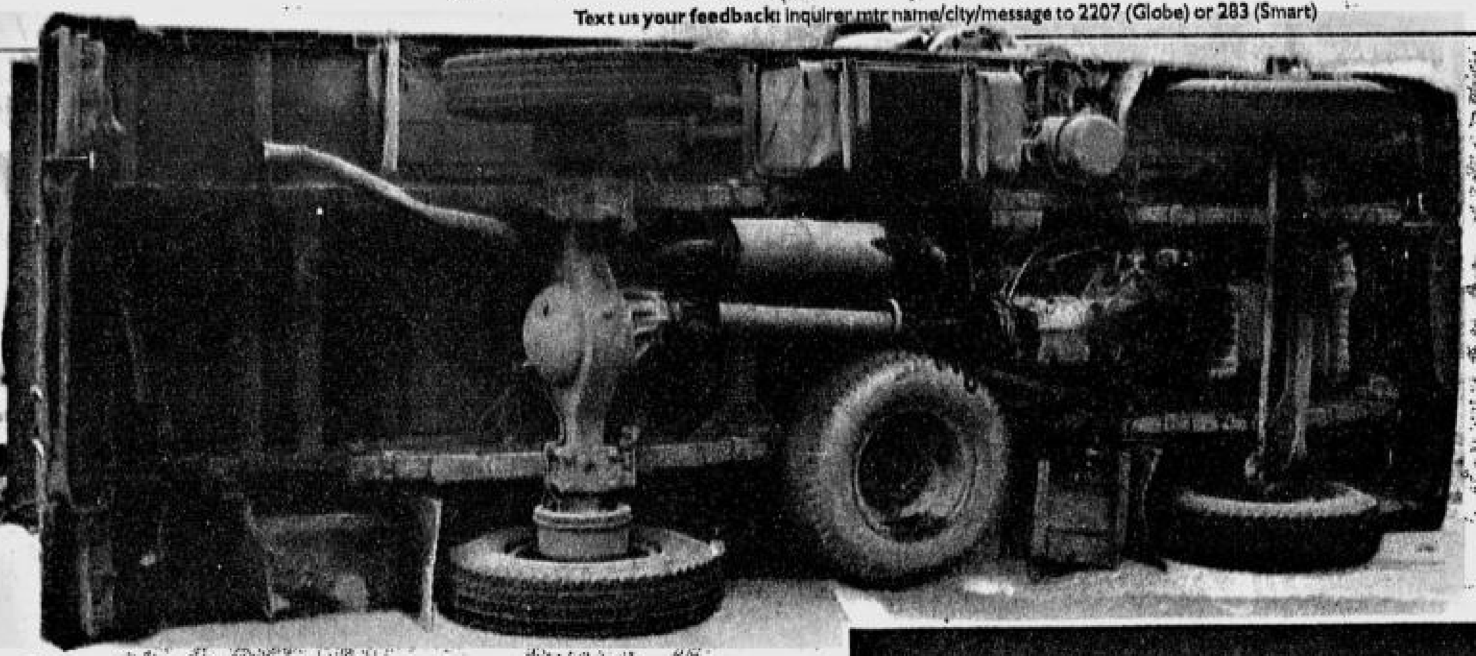
A mutual fund is an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in which the investible cash of numerous investors are pooled with the aim of achieving a specific investment objective. MUTUAL FUNDS ARE NOT DEPOSIT PRODUCTS AND, AS SUCH, YIELDS ARE NOT GUARANTEED. Mutual funds are not PDIC-insured. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.


Take a look at better figures.
NESTEA Lite
Take what fits you right.
NESTEA Lite

E-mail: pr_motoring@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

Text us your feedback: inquirer mtr name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



Six wheels are forced to become four to be exempted from the truck ban

6 wheels minus 2 equals traffic-stopping rollover

Text by Tessa R. Salazar
Photos by Alex P. Loinaz

IT'S a tried and tested formula for disaster. Convert a six-wheeler truck into a four-wheeler and you get a dangerously truncated motor vehicle running on the highway. Anytime, it could roll over, and it would just be your day if you were driving alongside it and it suddenly decides to lie down like a dead-tired dog on top of you and your family.

Even driving behind an anomaly of a vehicle could cause headaches. Take, for example, one accident last Friday morning along the southbound lane of the South Expressway near the Canlubang exit. A truck carrying hundreds of boxes of soy sauce fishtailed before finally resting on its side in the middle of the highway. Though no one was seriously hurt, thousands of motorists got stuck in the resulting two-hour traffic jam.

Exemption from truck ban

Authorities found out the truck carried way too many soy sauces, and sealing the truck's fate was its unstable four-wheel setup where there should have been six.

But why do truck operators and drivers remove the two wheels in the first place? Because the two tires would be used as spare? Probably. Because the owner needed them to keep his roof in place? Uh, maybe. So there would be two less tires to vulcanize? You're getting warm. Seriously, the real reason six wheels are forced to become four is that these trucks cease to become trucks when they run around on fours. Thus, they get exempted from the truck ban, which forbids trucks from plying Metro Manila's streets during the morning (5 to 9 a.m.) and evening (5 to 9 p.m.) rush hours. So, longer operating hours mean more delivery trips, which mean added profits every day.

The Metro Manila Development Authority, to make its job easier, looks at the wheels to determine if a vehicle in question is a truck or a van. Six wheels are automatically classified

6 WHEELS/ C2

clarion

Solid Performance for Discs and Tapes

NEW

2-DIN AM/FM CD/MP3/CASSETTE CENTRE

• Flip - Down Control Panel • Plays CD-R & CD-RW • Plays MP3 Encoded CDs • Full Logic Cassette with Auto Reverse • 3-Band Graphic EQ • Magna Bass EX • LCD with Spectrum Analyser • 2ch RCA Line Level Output • 2ch AUX Input • 200W (50W x 4) • 18FM/6AM Presets • CD Text, CD Titling

Multi-Format Access to Light Up Your Music

2-DIN AM/FM CD/MP3/WMA/MD CENTRE

• 728 Variable Colour Acrylic Edge Light • Plays CD-R & CD-RW • Plays MP3 and WMA Encoded CDs • CeNET Control of: Optional TV Tuner, Optional DVD Changer and 6-Disc CD Changer • CD Text, CD Titling, Station Name Titling • 2-Band Parametric EQ (Z-Enhancer Plus) • 2ch RCA Output • Magna Bass EX • MDLP Capability • MD Group Management Function • 200W(50W x 4) • 18FM/6AM Presets • Rotary Volume Control • Screen Saver with User-Programmable Message Information • IR Remote Control

High Performance in Impeccable European Styling

2-DIN AM/FM CD/CASSETTE CENTRE

• Stylish European Design • CeNET Control of: Optional TV Tuner and 6-Disc CD Changer • Graphic Equaliser (7-Band) • Dolby B Noise Reduction • Full-Logic Tape Transport • Auto Programme Control (APC) • 200W (50W x 4) • 4ch RCA Output • 18FM/6AM Presets • Rotary Volume Control • IR Remote Control

Cruising with Comfortably Classic Design

2-DIN AM/FM CD/CASSETTE CENTRE

• Comfortably Classic Design • CeNET Control of: Optional TV Tuner and 6-Disc CD Changer • Z-Enhancer • Dolby B Noise Reduction • Full-Logic Tape Transport • Auto Programme Control (APC) • 180W (45W x 4) • 4ch RCA Output • 18FM/6AM Presets • IR Remote Control

Adventurous New Looks to Get You Noticed

2-DIN AM/FM CD/CASSETTE CENTRE

• CeNET Control of: Optional TV Tuner and 6-Disc CD Changer • Z-Enhancer • Dolby B Noise Reduction • Full-Logic Tape Transport • Auto Programme Control (APC) • 180 W (45W x 4) • 4ch RCA Output • 18FM/6AM Presets • IR Remote Control

SHOWROOM & SERVICE CENTER
593 McArthur Highway, 1400 Caloocan City Tel No.: 367-8485 • 77 Cordillera St., Quezon City Tel Nos.: 732-6010 / 732-6012 • Level 3 Prime Block, Tutuban Center, Manila Tel No.: 450-3415

WARNING Only units purchased in the Philippines w/ validated Philippine Warranty Card will be serviced.

HYUNDAI
HALLOWEEN
TREATS FOR TRIPS

Don't let engine troubles spook you this Halloween. Have your Hyundai vehicle tuned up at any authorized dealer of Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI). Avail of the discount packages and get premium items when you buy any Shell Petroleum product. Plus, customers who avail of any of the packages are entitled to the following discounting schemes: A.) 20% discount on A/C belt, P/S belt, alternator belts & wiper blades, B.) 10% discount on wheel alignment, C.) 10% discount on batteries, D.) 5% discount on Kumho or Michelin tires.

Genuine Parts
Official Hyundai Genuine Parts Dealer

PACKAGE 1: OIL CHANGE using SHELL HELIX SUPER
- 50% discount on oil filter
- 20% discount on labor

With FREE pillow*

PACKAGE 2: OIL CHANGE using SHELL HELIX PLUS
- 50% discount on oil filter
- 20% discount on labor

With FREE HYUNDAI sunshades*

PACKAGE 3: OIL CHANGE using SHELL HELIX ULTRA
- 50% discount on oil filter
- 20% discount on labor
- 5% discount on oil

With FREE car care kit*

PACKAGE 4: BRAKE CHECK-UP
- 20% discount on labor
- 20% off on brake pads/shoes

With FREE Shell t-shirt*

PROMO RUNS FROM OCTOBER 13 - DECEMBER 11, 2004.

*Free items are available to customers from October 13 - 20, 2004.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2383 Series Of 2004.

EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR OF HYUNDAI
HYUNDAI ASIA RESOURCES, INC.
www.myhyundai.com.ph

HYUNDAI ALABANG - Tel: (02) 800 -1771, (02) 800-7344 / (02) 802-3574 / (02) 802-3653 / Mobile: (0917) 327-8088 • HYUNDAI E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE. - Tel: (02) 727- 6394, (02) 413-1848 (02) 251-0018, (02) 253-1908 • HYUNDAI EDSA - Tel: (02) 882-2433 / (02) 882-2432 • HYUNDAI MAKATI - Tel: (02) 830-0013 to 17 Telefax: (02) 830-0023 • HYUNDAI ORTIGAS - Tel: (02) 723-9101 to 07 • HYUNDAI QUEZON AVENUE - Tel: (02) 374-3911 / (02) 411-2720 • HYUNDAI CEBU - Tel: (032) 346-2724, (032) 345-4146 / (032) 345-0324 to 26 • HYUNDAI DAVAO - Tel: (082) 235-2955 / Telefax: (082) 305-0000 • HYUNDAI ILOILO - Tel: (033) 320-7020, (033) 508-8878 / Telefax: (033) 320-4186 • HYUNDAI LA UNION - Tel: (072) 712 - 8887 to 88 • HYUNDAI LAGUNA - Tel: (049) 411-5650 / (02) 520-8211, (02) 520-8250 • HYUNDAI PAMPANGA - Tel: (045) 961-1184, (045) 961-3977,(045) 861-8888,(045) 888-3333

HYUNDAI
ALWAYS THERE FOR YOU

THIS obviously talented Spanish youngster has been highly sought after in the world of Formula One as his achievements speak for themselves.

A brief encounter with a budding F1 'conquistador'

Text and photos by Charles E. Buban

ONCE in a while, Formula One racing gods smile upon the local motoring media, giving us a chance to rub elbows with some of F1's fast-rising stars without actually exerting too much effort as shelling out money.

Such was the case two Saturday's ago when Renault F1 driver Fernando Alonso visited the country for a promotional tour despite an already busy schedule preparing for the Japanese grand prix, which would happen in a week.

Alonso struck me as being a rather shy person with a lot more going on under the surface than what was on it.

Indeed, when one comes closer a little more to him, his self-confidence impresses, the same quality that brought him to compete head on with the best drivers in the planet.

Youngest winner

Alonso rose to F1 fame in 2003 when the Spaniard became the youngest ever winner of a grand prix (at age 22), after racing to victory in the Hungarian Grand Prix. This secured his team's first victory in the process (it has been 20 years since the last Renault car took the checkered flag in a grand prix).

Earlier that year, during the Malaysian Grand Prix, the Renault star took his first pole position, making him the youngest ever (at age 21) driver to start at a grand prix.

But you wouldn't hear Alonso make so much fuss about what he had done.

"It's nothing really," he said.

No rituals or anything

During the interview session, I asked Alonso on how he prepares for an upcoming race (hoping to get some prerace ritual or something to that effect).

Instead Alonso replied: "I just drink a lot of water and eat the usual food (which I guess almost all racers do) and during the race, I think of nothing else but driving," hinting that he rarely felt the need to get animated.

Perhaps, he was one of those men destined to race. He didn't even require formal training to hone his skills.

"I make adjustments during the race. What's important is how well you adapt to a situation and adjust accordingly," he said.

Alonso rose to F1 fame when the Spaniard became the youngest ever winner of a grand prix at age 22

Just 3 years old

So where did Alonso got his racing gene? That is still a mystery.

If you think his birthplace has something to do with his passion, well, his hometown Oviedo in northern Spain is not exactly a place where one can be inspired to take a career in racing.

"It's home to about 200,000 inhabitants, and the city is actually famous for its historical buildings and Gothic cathedral," Alonso described.

Alonso was just 3 years old when he joined serious racing competition (karting). But his parent knew much earlier that he was destined for racing.

Built a kart

He recounted that he was just about a year older when his father Luis Alonso built a kart for his sister.

But instead of his sister showing interest on their father's creation, it was he who started playing it around. Since then, father and son never looked back.

When a local kart track owner spotted the young talent, he tipped Alonso to a friend, a karting team owner, who readily welcomed Alonso to his fold.

After that, Alonso virtually won in every race that he competed in: Spanish Karting title in 1994, 1996 and 1997; runner-up in the European Kart championship in 1998 before taking the Euro Open Championship for Nissan in 1999; finished sixth overall in the Formula 3000 final championship standings for team Astromega in 2000.

He then transferred to F1 team Minardi before becoming a Renault regular driver in 2003.

Looking forward

While the Renault team is still 16 points behind second placer BAR Honda after the conclusion of the Japanese grand prix (only one race remains this season), Alonso, who is currently fourth in the overall standing, is now looking forward at a more fruitful 2005 season.

"We will do much better next year. We will make the necessary adjustments and I'm sure my team is now preparing for it," said Alonso.

Indeed, for this young racer, the Renault team has a lot to look forward to, next season.

---

6 wheels minus 2 equals traffic-stopping rollover

From page C1

as trucks even if these are below the 4,500 gvw (gross vehicle weight) the law classifies as the weight of trucks.

To make even more deliveries while being exempted from the truck ban, these "four-wheel trucks" are loaded beyond the payload capacities determined by the truck manufacturers as a six-wheeler. The weight of the truck, plus its excessive payload, rests on only four wheels.

Safety at greater risk

In circumventing the truck ban and overloading their trucks at the same time, truck operators and drivers may be putting the safety and convenience of the motoring public at greater risk. INQUIRER Motoring has documented photos of accidents involving "four-wheel trucks."

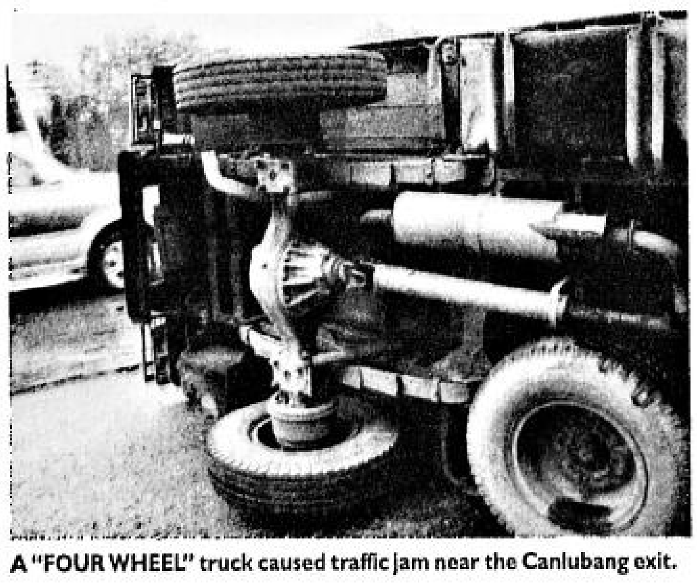
Said LTO traffic safety education chief Daisy Jacobo: "It is a very bad business decision. It is self-serving. You do not take into consideration the driver and companions and other motorists. It has no sense of community at all. It is a business that lacks social responsibility."

In the recent accident at the Expressway, photographer Alex Loinaz and his family happened to be one of those who got stuck in traffic. "Because of the excess weight at the back of the truck, the tendency of the truck was to fishtail and lose control," he said.

Truck manufacturers estimate that a six-wheeler truck can safely carry 3.5 to 4 tons (vehicle weight and payload) depending on the design. A four-wheeler or a single-axle truck can only carry a maximum two tons.

A converted four-wheel truck carrying more than two tons is an overloaded truck. The single wheels at the back take the load supposed to be shared by the missing two inner side wheels. The rims, therefore, have the tendency to give in. A rollover then ensues.

But while MMDA enforcers count wheels, LTO's safety enforcers count on their instincts. "Most of those we apprehend are closed aluminum vans delivering food and raw materials. We apprehend them because of the road safety involved. We see a lot of them on Edsa. It's an MMDA jurisdiction, but we apprehend them anyway because of the safety factor," Jacobo explained.



A "FOUR WHEEL" truck caused traffic jam near the Canlubang exit.

Penalty for axle overloading

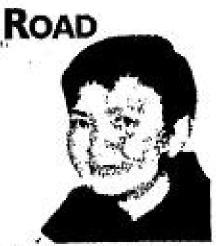
Republic Act 8794, the road users charge law, imposes on motor vehicle users specific fees on all types of motor vehicles to provide for and ensure the adequate maintenance of national and provincial roads through sufficient funding. It also defines the weight classifications of different motor vehicles, including trucks and trailers, and under section six, the penalty for overloading beyond the prescribed gvw is equivalent to 25 percent of the MVUC (motor vehicle users charge) for trucks and trailers, provided that no axle load exceeds 13,500 kg.

The gvw of trucks is required to be indicated conspicuously for authorities to easily see. It can also be obtained in the owner's manual, commercial invoice and actual computations that contain the manufacturers' specs.

A truck carrying hundreds of boxes of soy sauce fishtailed before resting on its side

Car of the Year revs up

ON THE ROAD



Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

YOU know that something new and exciting is coming up when motoring journalists from 29 print, 12 broadcast and five cyber media unite for one purpose: to choose, using standardized and scientific methods, the Car of the Year of 2004 in the Philippines with the support of Automobile Association Philippines (AAP), the national auto club. The Car of the Year and other winners in the various categories will be announced at a glittering awards ceremony in February.

> The Car of the Year will be announced at a glittering awards ceremony in February

For this purpose, the Car Awards Group Inc. has revved up and attracted motoring-oriented journalists from, among others, the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Philippine Star, Manila Bulletin, Manila Standard, Business World, CI Magazine, Top Gear, Rev, Speed, Gadgets, T3, Reviewer, MANual Magazine, Men's Zone, Stuff Magazine, Overdrive, ABS-CBN, Radio Mindanao Network, dzRH, dwIZ, Auto Extreme TV, Auto Review TV, Speed TV, autoindustriya.com, motorista.com.ph and motioncars.com. The directors and some members of the Car Awards Group were inducted into office last Friday by Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza in his DOTC office.

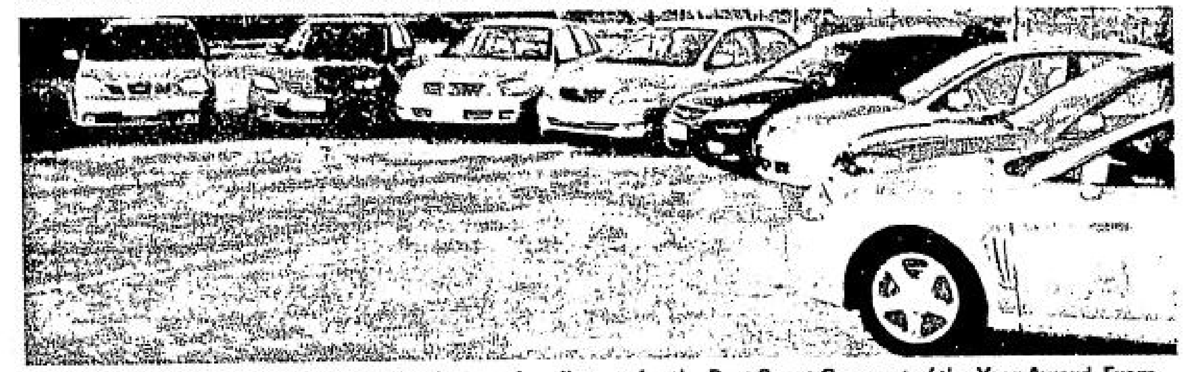
Quanti and quali

Every weekend, members of the Car Awards Group will bring motor vehicles loaned by their manufacturers to Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Cavite for quantitative and qualitative testing. The tests began last Saturday, when precision instruments were used to gauge under normal driving conditions the zero to 100 km/hr acceleration, 100 to zero deceleration, brakes, revving, fuel efficiency and noise of automobiles powered by 1.6-, 1.8- or 2.0-liter engines. Veteran rally drivers Raul Asuncion, Barry Ortiz and Dennis Santos acted as marshals.

The qualitative or subjective testing is done on Sundays by motoring journalists who are experienced test drivers. Last Sunday, a dozen members of Cotyp (Car of the Year Philippines), as the Car Awards Group sometimes calls itself, drove each of the test units along a set route inside Eagle Ridge and afterward rated the cars on a scale of 1 to 9 on points such as acceleration, braking, ergonomics, comfort, front-side-rear design, safety, and value for money.

Top pick

In addition, the Cotyp members described in a blank box on the rating sheet the X Factor that they thought was the best characteristic of each car and were afterward asked to choose their Top Pick from among the vehicles tested. The rating sheet scores and Top Pick results are kept in the strictest confidence and promptly forwarded to the SGV accounting firm for tallying.



EIGHT compact cars formed a circle after last weekend's tests for the Best Sport Compact of the Year Award. From left: Chevrolet Optra 1.8, Mazda3 2.0, Nissan Sentra 180 GT, Toyota Corolla Altis 1.8 Honda Civic 2.0, Mitsubishi Lancer 1.6, Ford Lynx RS 2.0 and Hyundai Tib on 2.0 Coupé

PHOTOS BY: AIDA SEVILLA-MENDOZA

The cars tested last weekend were the 2004 models of the Toyota Corolla Altis 1.8, Honda Civic 2.0, Mitsubishi Lancer 1.6, Nissan Sentra 180 GT, Mazda3 2.0, Ford Lynx 2.0 RS, Chevrolet Optra 1.8 and Hyundai Tiburon 2.0 coupé. The Best Sport Compact of the Year will emerge from these entries.

Major categories

Also up for grabs are Super-Mini of the Year Award (small cars in the 1.3- to 1.5-liter category), Best Asian Utility Vehicle, Best Executive Sedan, Best Luxury Sedan, Best Compact Sport Utility Vehicle, Best Full-Size SUV, Best Pickup and Best Van. At the same time, a Media Choice of the Year Award (a vehicle that did not win but has that X Factor) and Best of Brand Certificates of Recognition will also be given. The Car of the Year will be chosen from the winners in the eight major categories.

The Car Awards Group appreciates the cooperation extended by car manufacturers/distributors and emphasizes that no donations or sponsorships whatsoever will be solicited from them for Cotyp and the Awards Night. Automobile Association Philippines (AAP), the country's oldest auto club and the only one affiliated with Federation International de l'Automobile (FIA), will foot the bill for the testing equipment and test drive sessions.

Ferrari entry

Those who are participating in Cotyp so far are the Philippine assemblers and distributors of Honda, Nissan, Mitsubishi, Mazda, Isuzu, Suzuki, Hyundai, Kia, BMW, Volvo, Peugeot, Ford, Chevrolet and Dodge. While Toyota Motor Philippines Corp. is making up its mind, privately owned 2004 model Toyota vehicles will be used in the tests. Meanwhile, luxury car distributor Wellington Soong has promised to field a Ferrari 360 Modena, three Jaguars (XJ8 short wheelbase, XJ6 and X type) and a Land Rover Discovery 4x4 SUV while Benedict Go, president of Hummer Philippines, is entering the military and civilian versions of the Hummer H1.

The participation of so many car manufacturers and the support of AAP validates the credibility of Cotyp as an annual project that will not only give due recognition to the auto industry's improvements in technology and quality, but will also benefit consumers and the motoring public.

* * *

TODAY'S BUMPER STICKER: Hey, idiot—you're driving a car, not a phone booth.

* * *

(E-mail comments to asevilla@inquirer.com.ph.)

WINDSHIELD
CRACK REPAIR
U.S. Pat.
Up to any Long, Guaranteed!
LTO APPROVED!
NOT REPLACEMENT! EMISSION CTR2
SALE: ANALYZER 125T / OPACIMETER 200T
• RESTORES VISIBILITY 75-90% • STRENGTH 100%
• REMOVE GLASS SCRATCHES, ACID RAINS & SILICON BUILD-UP
• CLEANS & SANITIZED CAR A/C IN 45 MINS. (U.S.)
• PAINTLESS DENT REMOVAL • REPAIR LEAKS & DEFOGGER
• 24K GOLDPLATING OF CAR EMBLEMS W/O DISASSEMBLY
CALL NOW BEFORE ITS TOO LATE!
MANILA MIDWEST # 40 Kalayaan, Ave., Q.C. Tels.: 926-6829/435-6391
National Road, Taytay, Rizal Tel.: 286-2925/0920-8938816
BACOOR (046) 870-2779 * ILOILO 337-3782/0920-3102154 * CEBU 262-6571
BAGUIO 0916-8561664 Website:http://members.aol.com/hitecom
Bring this ad for P150 OFF except on Emission Test. Expiration date 12/31/04

GATES OPEN A LITTLE QUICKER. SECURITY SALUTES. VALETS RESPOND FASTER. AND LESSER VEHICLES HUMBLY CLEAR OUT OF YOUR WAY.
PATROL
NISSAN PATROL. THE PLEASURE OF POWER.

PATROL

SHIFT_the future NISSAN

Assembled and distributed by:
Universal Motors Corporation
www.mynissan.com.ph

METRO MANILA DEALERS: CORE AUTOMOTIVE RESOURCES, INC. (Makati) Tel. Nos. 810-0151 / 812-7538 / 818-4598 / 892-6217 • CORE AUTOMOTIVE RESOURCES, INC. (Quezon Ave.) Tel. Nos. 742-5192 / 743-1529 / 35 / 39 \ • MANTRADE DEVELOPMENT CORP. (Makati) Tel. Nos. 843-3316 to 23 / 843-8011 / 812-7701 • NISSAN GALLERY-ORTIGAS Tel. Nos. 633-2545 / 635-5888 / 438-4539 • NISSAN NORTH EDSA Tel. Nos. 455-8980 / 330-5331 to 50 • NISSAN COMMONWEALTH, INC. Tel. Nos. 932-0428 / 932-4001 • BROADWAY MOTOR SALES, INC. Tel. Nos. 525-9061 to 64 / 400-1522 / 400-1020 / 400-2177 / 404-2439 • NISSAN WESTGATE (Alabang) Tel. Nos. 772-1826 / 775-0236 / 775-0239 / 775-0523 • LUZON DEALERS: NISSAN SOUTHWOODS Tel. Nos. 699-2400 to 02 / (049) 241-3040 / (046) 430-1683 to 84 • LISAM ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. Nos. (054) 472-3577 to 79 • WORLD CARS, INC. (Baliuag) Tel. Nos. (044) 766-0492 / 766-0191 / 673-1200 • NISSAN PAMPANGA Tel. Nos. (045) 961-5481 / 961-5461 to 62 • ROYCE MOTOR CENTER, INC. (Cabanatuan City) Tel. Nos. (044) 463-7210 to 12 (Isabela) Tel. Nos. (078) 682-8701 / 682-6707 (San Fernando) Tel. Nos. (045) 961-7773 to 74 • VISAYAS DEALERS: S & J MOTORS, INC. Tel. Nos. (033) 320-4061 to 54 • ILOILO CAR CORPORATION Tel. Nos. (033) 320-2248 / 320-2064 • PO'S MARKETING ENT., INC. Tel. Nos. (034) 435-1102 / 434-8051 to 52 / 434-8530 / 433-2907 / 433-0562 / 67 • NISSAN CEBU DISTRIBUTORS, INC. Tel. Nos. (032) 346-8422 to 25 / 345-0006 to 07 / 346-0350 / 345-1124 / 346-8430 to 31 / 345-1450 • MINDANAO DEALERS: NISSAN CAGAYAN DE ORO DISTRIBUTORS, INC. Tel. Nos. (08822) 732-672 / 733-444 / (088) 856-3558 • DAVAO UNICAR CORPORATION (Davao City) Tel. Nos. (082) 221-1914 / 16 / 18 / 227-0308 to 09 DAVAO UNICAR CORPORATION (General Santos City) Tel. No. (083) 552-3228

3 YEAR WARRANTY 100K KM

Putting Norkis' 4Rs back to work anew

Text and photos
by Charles E. Buban

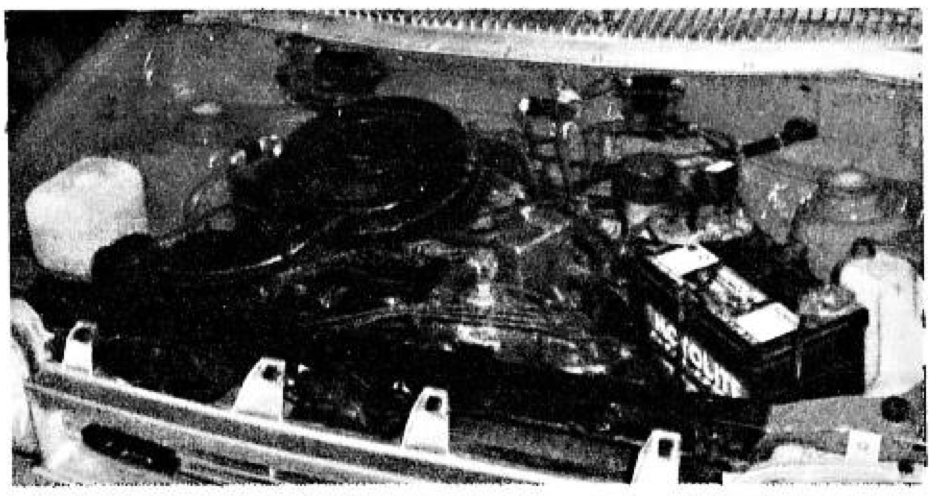
WHEN it comes to practicality and ingenuity, very few Filipino-owned companies would come close to what Cebu-based Norkis Group of Companies has shown in the past years.

After all, it was this company that gave us the tricycle, that ubiquitous mode of transport that the group's founder and chair Norberto Quisumbing Jr. devised in 1963 when human-powered pedicabs were being banned from the streets of Manila.

It is no wonder that when the country announced its intention to double the import tariff on big vehicles coming from outside Southeast Asia and to encourage auto manufacturers here to introduce vehicles with small engine displacements, the group quickly came out with its sub-1 liter vehicle.

"It was also a timely move because the price of fuel has gone up since then," observes Porti Vencer of Porta Coeli Industrial Co., an affiliate of the group and distributor of Legacy First brand of vehicles.

USING a cab body, the Legacy First becomes a dependable personal ride.



SMALL and economical, the Legacy First's engine is an excellent fuel saver.

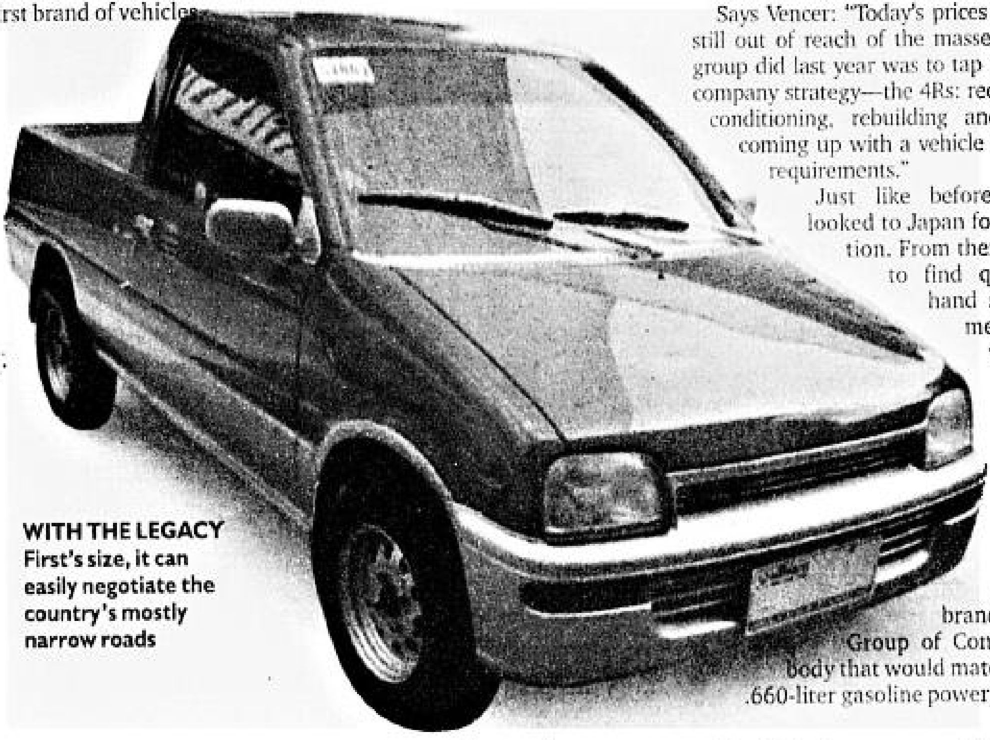
Born out of necessity

According to Vencer, the Legacy First was born out of necessity—when the group needed to sell a vehicle that would appeal to the masses but at the same time would not hurt them too much economically.

Says Vencer: "Today's prices of vehicles are still out of reach of the masses. So what the group did last year was to tap its ever reliable company strategy—the 4Rs: reengineering, reconditioning, rebuilding and recycling in coming up with a vehicle that will fit the requirements."

Just like before, Quisumbing looked to Japan for some inspiration. From there, he was able to find quality second-hand small displacement engines, which he brought in to his Cebu headquarters for evaluation.

After reconditioning the engine to perform like brand-new, Norkis Group of Companies built a body that would match its 3 cylinder, .660-liter gasoline powerplant.



WITH THE LEGACY First's size, it can easily negotiate the country's mostly narrow roads

The result was the Legacy First (in single and double cab variant).

16 kilometers

"The most notable accomplishment about the Legacy First is it delivers a fuel consumption of around 15 kilometers per liter when we tested it on Metro Manila and provincial roads," says Vencer. That means a lot for our buyers who consider fuel consumption, according to him.

Obviously, the Legacy First's main market would be small Filipino entrepreneurs, start-up businessmen, salesmen and even professionals.

"To further help these buyers, Porta Coeli Industrial Co. offers a six-month warranty on engine and transmission and unlimited 30-day warranty. Plus, we have accredited service centers and complete lineup of spare parts to further support the new Legacy First owners," says Vencer.

Introduced in Cebu

Introduced in Cebu City in October last year and five months later, in Luzon and other parts of the Visayas, the group is now eyeing to market Legacy First nationwide.

"We are currently looking for dealers and accredited display centers (those who would lend their space to be converted as showroom) all over the Philippines. In fact, we will offer the Legacy First to them at P187,000 per unit," says Vencer.

Employing 4Rs

The first time Norkis Group of Companies employed the 4Rs was in 1983 when the country fell into deep financial crisis. With the peso devalued and dollars scarce, importation became difficult for the group.

"To save the group's main business, that is producing Yamaha motorcycles and avoid retrenching thousands of employees, Quisumbing decided to import used Yamaha components and engines (at a fraction of the cost of brand-new units) from Japan and sent them to Cebu to be reengineered, reconditioned, rebuilt and recycled. Thus born the Econobike," Vencer reveals.

Similarly, when these tricycles became an issue for their noise and uncontrolled number a few years ago, Quisumbing, at the time, developed the Multicab, whom he referred to as a better alternative to the noisy, dilapidated tricycles clogging his home city of Cebu.

Indeed, the Multicab's compact size is well suited to the narrow streets of most provincial cities and municipalities, a reason it was replacing jeepneys and tricycles there.

Says Vencer: "The Legacy First will complement the group's small displacement engine like the Multicab. By offering the country with an affordable fuel efficient vehicles, the group is giving a lot of people a chance of one day owning a vehicle of their own."

Soriquez & Dion willing; Agbayani, still no?

FULL TANK

Al Mendoza

THE NORTH Luzon Expressway will open soon. Like a much-ballyhooed blockbuster movie, its opening is eagerly awaited.

But will it really open on time, like in December, before Christmas?

I wish it could hit that target. Many *syanos* will rejoice 10-fold if it should open before the rush to the provinces, which must be around the second week of December. Just imagine the smooth as silk ride back home, as only the new NLEX can offer our motorists once this main gateway to the North is completed and opened to the pubic.

I can't wait really to have it fully operational, especially now that I go home to Pangasinan as often as I could. Ah, there's really no substitute to country life. Fresh air. Fresh food. Fresh sights.

* * *

If you haven't tried it yet, much less ridden it, woe to you, fellow Full Tankers. The car to beat at this stage of the contest among the big cars is Honda's 3-liter Accord.

As Honda's Arnel Doria said, "Honda has gone a notch higher." For one, the Honda new Accord V6 delivers 240ps and comes with an array of technological advantages unmatched in its class. For another, the new Accord line-up, which consists of the 3.0-liter V6 and the 2.4-liter i-VTEC variants, has the most powerful engines in the mid-luxury sedan segment.

Even its exterior styling is so dynamic that the new Accord radiates a form with presence borne out of Honda's pursuit for aerodynamic performance and an ideal balance of calm, motion quality and energy, in effect achieving high-speed performance, quietness and fuel efficiency.

Said Min Magbal: "The new Accord fuses an elegant, yet sporty package that appeals to a broader range of buyers. The 3.0-liter V6 model features a power sunroof, retractable side mirrors with clear turn lamp, 16-inch 7-spoke alloy wheel design and chrome-accents make it luxurious and stylish."

The new Accord has redefined what it means to drive in true comfort and convenience. Its plush interior combines elegantly designed instrument panel, generous space, numerous storage area as well as technologically advanced features such as progressive illumination gauges and dual zone control air-conditioning system. Further enhancing a more relaxed driving feel is the highly advanced cruise control system that allows the driver to maintain a set speed above 40 km/hr without keeping the foot on the accelerator pedal.

And from Tin Tin Reyes, this: "At the heart of the new Accord is an innovative and extensively remodeled 3.0-liter VTEC V6 engine, providing 240ps at 6,250 rpm and torque of 29.3 kg-m at 5,000 rpm and the new 2.4-liter DOHC i-VTEC engine that generates 160ps at peak torque of 22.2 kg-m at 4,400 rpm."

Oh, well, what can I say?

Both engines are mated with highly responsive 5-speed automatic transmission, equipped with an Electronic Throttle Control or sometimes referred to as "drive-by-wire" system. This technology was pioneered on a Honda F-1 racing engine and is also used on Honda CART engines. It allows for an extremely smooth gearshift and contributes to better fuel efficiency at lower emission level.

The new Accord is the only sedan in its class that has an independent double wishbone suspension at the front and an independent five-link double wishbone suspension at the rear. The new Accord also comes with G-Con (G-force Control) technology that controls and absorbs collision impact, Antilock Brake System (ABS), Electronic Brake-force Distribution (EBD) that properly distributes the brake-force to all wheels, not to mention the Brake Assist System for rapid and effective response under all circumstances. SRS dual front airbag system is also a standard equipment. In addition, the new Accord offers more convenience through its Wave-blade key with remote controller for keyless window and trunk operation. The new Accord V6 is fitted with the latest safety technology, Honda's Traction Control System (TCS) to prevent wheel-spin, improve handling and increase traction and stability.

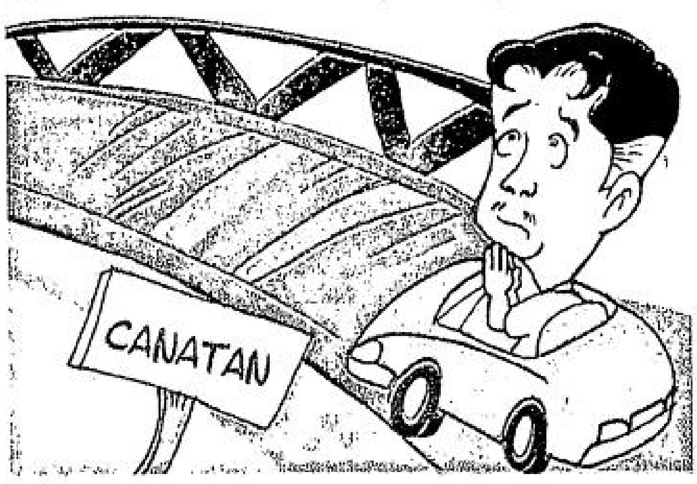
The most powerful Accord lineup has the following suggested retail prices: The 2.4 VTi AT comes at P1,200,000, 2.4 VTi-L AT at P1,380,000, and the 3.0 V6 AT at P1,600,000.

And, if you are lucky, you might get a box of the delicious Puto Biñan from Tin Tin Reyes once you decide to drive home any of those models.

So, what are you waiting for?

* * *

PAGING GOV. AGBAYANI. Since 2000, I had been pleading to Pangasinan Gov. Victor Agbayani to repair the Canatan Bridge in my hometown of Mangatarem. That is his responsibility as that is part of the provincial road of Pangasinan, not to mention the stretches of asphalt road between my town and Urbiztondo which got swept away by the recent devastating floods that hit Northern Luzon. Public Works Secretary Soriquez had wanted to help (thank you for your concern, Mr. Secretary) and promptly requested District Engineer Dion of the Second Pangasinan Engineering Brigade to have a look-see of the bridge in question, whose utter state of disrepair has made it a veritable coffin for motorists brave enough to cross it. Unfortunately, engineer Dion, a mild-mannered person blessed with a heart as unsullied as a morning dew, couldn't do a thing as Canatan is part of the provincial road. Please do it, Mr. Governor, for the sake of your *kabaleyans*, if not for old times sakes since your late Papang was a buddy of my late Papang—and, as a kid, I used to make *mano po* to your Papang when he was still governor of Pangasinan? And to also think that your brother, Louie, and I almost formed a band some years back, with Caloy Rufo as our lead guitar.



* * *

QUOTE ME. Overtaking is a risk at any given time. When in doubt, don't.

Toyota to hold 15th classical concert tour in Asia

TOKYO—Toyota Motor Corp. is proud to present to classical music fans throughout Asia the artistic talent of the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra, as a part of this year's Toyota Classics—A World of Harmony. In 2004, TMC celebrates the 15th year of the Toyota Classics since its inception in 1990.

This year, from Oct. 30 to Nov. 10, the Toyota Classics will visit six cities throughout Asia, including Singapore, Taipei, Ho Chi Minh City, Seoul, Hong Kong and Manila. Conducted in cooperation with Toyota distributors in Asia, the tour will contribute to musical culture by bringing classical music to the people in Asia. Proceeds from each concert will be donated to local charities.

TMC is committed to contributing to a prosperous society through "Monozukuri—manufacturing of value-added products" and "technological innovation."

Respect for the culture and customs of the nations in which TMC operates, as well as determination to contribute to economic and social development through corporate activities conducted in each region have also been a part of the company's guiding principles since its founding. The Toyota Classics reflects these principles and the company's desire to be a model corporate citizen.

The full Brno Philharmonic Orchestra of the Czech Republic, which the Toyota Classics welcomes in 2004, will celebrate "Czech Music Year" marking the centennial of the passing of Czechoslovakia's premier composer, Antonín Dvorák, under the baton of Leos Svárovský.

Classical melodies to be performed during the tour will focus primarily on pieces written by Czech composers, such as Dvorák's Symphony No. 9 in E minor, Op.95 "From the New World." Moreover, the orchestra will perform pieces with local artists in some countries to encourage international exchange through music.

Brno Philharmonic Orchestra

Now in its 48th season, the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra carries on a great orchestral tradition established by the young Leos Janácek. With 115 musicians, the Brno Phil is one of central Europe's largest orchestras. Many excellent conductors have contributed to its artistic tradition. The orchestra has hosted some of the world's greats, from the legendary Charles Munch to Yehudi Menuhin.

The Brno Phil travels abroad approximately seven times a year. It has toured most European countries, the United States, Japan and South Korea. In addition to the Prague Spring and Moravian Autumn festivals in the Czech Republic, it is a regular guest at international festivals in Berlin and Innsbruck, among others.

One of its most treasured performances was the concert performed at the Vatican in 2000 as the Czech Republic's gift to the Holy Father during the Great Jubilee celebrations. Petr Altrichter, the former chief conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, became principal conductor of the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra at the beginning of 2002.

Leos Svárovský, conductor

Leos Svárovský studied flute at the Prague Conservatory and conducting at the Prague Academy of Music under the renowned music instructor Václav Neumann. Early in his career, he began serving as principal conductor of several excellent Czech and Slovak orchestras. Among the orchestras he has served in this capacity are the Prague Chamber Opera and Brno Philharmonic Orchestra.

Svárovský has also been principal conductor of the Prague National Theater ballet company and first conductor of the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra. Currently, he is principal conductor of the Czech Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra of Pardubice, conductor of the Prague Symphony Orchestra and guest conductor of the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra.

In addition, he has been artistic director of the State Opera Prague since July 2003. Among the numerous foreign orchestras with which Svárovský has worked are the Shanghai Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra. He regularly appears at many important music festivals including Prague Spring and Moravian Autumn.

Toyota Classics, Philippines

The Toyota Classics in the Philippines is scheduled on Nov. 10 at the Teatro Aguinaldo, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Joining the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra for a special solo number is the Philippines' very own cellist, Renato B. Lucas.

All proceeds of the concert will be donated to the Pondo ng Pinoy Community Foundation Inc.

For ticket inquiries, please call up Ticketworld at 891-5610.

What to look for when choosing the right vehicle, accessories

YOU'RE wandering through the maze of car displays in your dealership center when all of a sudden, you see it: The car you've hunted for months is sitting right in front of you. It's the right color and has all the extras. It's perfect. You take it for a test spin. You're in love and you've got to have it. But have you stopped to consider its safety rating?

Question car buyers don't ask often enough is, "Which cars are the safest?" Most people have safety very low on their priority list when shopping for a vehicle. Admit it, most buyers equate safety to boring, and there's little information out there to emphasize "safety before form." Fortunately, the Philippines has matured in terms of standardized testing for automotive vehicles and the government has began to create an awareness program about automotive safety and environmental standards.

Product certification

Under the Department of Trade and Industry's Bureau of Product Standards' product certifications scheme, products under mandatory certification are subjected to inspections by the BPS prior to distribution or selling in the market.

A manufacturer or importer whose product is under mandatory certification cannot distribute or sell without the PS license and Import Commodity Clearance from BPS.

The products under BPS mandatory certification scheme include four automotive products: safety glass, pneumatic tires, safety belts and lead-acid automotive batteries.

Car features

Product certification is very important to comfort buyers making sure the vehicle they are acquiring have met standard safety requirements. On the other hand, specific characteristics of a vehicle may help you avoid a crash in the first place. Things to consider:

- **Braking.** Good braking is critical for safety. A shorter stopping distance can prevent crashes. In general, heavier vehicles take longer to stop, though there are exceptions. Good break pads are abrasive and soft compounds with immediate increase in stopping power.
- **Stability Control and ABS (antilock brake system).** Both these features can help drivers retain control of their vehicles in dangerous situations. Stability control is an essential feature for top-heavy vehicles like trucks and sport utility vehicles (SUVs).

WHAT/ C6

Get the Mitsubishi vehicle you've always wanted through...

YOUR FINANCING PARTNER
BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
AUTO MADNESS
Lowest Interest Rates Ever!
IN ALL MITSUBISHI MOTORS DEALERS NATIONWIDE
EXTENDED UP TO OCTOBER 31, 2004
As per approved by DTI-NCR

FINANCE IT THROUGH BPI AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE EXCITING PACKAGES:

TREAT FOR REPEAT

HAPPY FAMILY AUTO LOAN REPEAT CLIENTS CAN AUTOMATICALLY TAKE HOME ANY OF THE EXCLUSIVE FAMILY SHOWCASES.
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO5374 .SERIES OF 2003

FAMILY FUN ADVENTURES

AVAIL OF A MINIMUM P450,000 HAPPY FAMILY AUTO LOAN AND AUTOMATICALLY GET A FREE OVERNIGHT STAY FOR A FAMILY OF 4 AT ANY OF THE PARTICIPATING HOTELS AND RESORTS.
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO.0870 .SERIES OF 2004

Low Downpayment

Model	SRP	DP	24	36	48	60	72
2004 Lancer 1.6 GL M/T	658,000	78,700	27,576	19,646	15,755	13,817	12,532
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLX M/T	698,000	64,700	29,252	20,840	16,713	14,657	13,294
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT	758,000	68,700	31,767	22,632	18,149	15,917	14,437
2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT	838,000	85,700	35,120	25,020	20,065	17,597	15,961
2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel M/T	675,000	101,250	28,289	20,154	16,162	14,174	12,856
2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas M/T	700,000	85,000	29,336	20,900	16,760	14,699	13,332
2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel M/T*	740,000	111,000	31,013	22,094	17,718	15,539	14,094
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas M/T	795,000	79,250	33,318	23,737	19,035	16,694	15,142
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	805,000	80,750	33,737	24,035	19,275	16,904	15,332
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	848,000	107,200	35,539	25,310	20,304	17,807	16,151
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	935,000	105,250	39,185	27,917	22,387	19,634	17,808
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	980,000	127,000	41,071	29,260	23,465	20,579	18,665
2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T	1,180,000	87,000	48,511	34,561	27,718	24,307	22,254
2004 Outlander 2.4 Gas AWD A/T	1,280,000	77,000	53,043	38,217	30,648	26,879	24,379

Low Downpayment and Low Monthly

Model	SRP	DP	24	36	48	60	72
2004 Lancer 1.6 GL M/T	658,000	319,000	15,294	10,896	8,738	7,663	7,155
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLX M/T	698,000	319,000	16,224	11,559	9,269	8,129	7,590
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT	758,000	341,000	17,619	12,552	10,066	8,828	8,243
2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT	838,000	389,000	19,478	13,877	11,128	9,760	9,113
2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel M/T**	675,000	337,500	15,701	11,186	8,970	7,867	7,123
2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas M/T**	700,000	350,000	16,317	11,625	9,323	8,176	7,403
2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel M/T*	740,000	337,000	17,200	12,254	9,827	8,618	8,047
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas M/T	795,000	377,500	18,479	13,165	10,557	9,259	8,645
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	805,000	382,500	18,711	13,330	10,690	9,375	8,754
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T**	848,000	424,000	19,966	14,224	11,407	10,004	9,061
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	935,000	447,500	21,733	15,483	12,416	10,889	10,167
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.0 Gas A/T**	980,000	490,000	23,220	16,543	13,266	11,635	10,540
2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T**	1,180,000	590,000	24,583***	17,319	13,889	12,181	11,114
2004 Outlander 2.4 Gas AWD A/T	1,280,000	535,000	29,752	21,196	16,998	14,908	13,919

* Also available in 7 and 5 seater configurations / ** Low monthly plans only / *** Zero Interest Plan
• All plans subject to BPI Family Bank's approval / All models quoted are standard models
• Please inquire at your nearest Mitsubishi dealership for models not listed above

• Lower Downpayment Plans
• Avail of the Auto Madness Promo's lowest interest rates ever, 11.75 % effective rate per year, 24 months to pay
• Extend your plan to 72 months
• Zero Interest Plans also available for selected models • Free LTO Registration

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
It's All in the Family!
www.bpiexpressonline.com

In cooperation with:
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
www.mitsubishi-motors.com.ph

Per DTI-NCR Permit No 4434 Series of 2004

FOR INQUIRIES CALL 845-6850 • 845-6461 • 845-6919 • 845-6570 • 845-6783 • 845-6772

See your nearest Mitsubishi dealer now!

METRO MANILA: CITIMOTORS, INC.-Makati (Main) - Tel. Nos.: 892-0331 to 42 CITIMOTORS, INC. - Las Piñas - Tel. Nos. 875-1545 / 875-1704 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP. - Greenhills (Main) - Tel. Nos.: 727-0351 to 60 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP. - Quezon Ave. Tel. Nos.: 372-3901 to 15 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP. - Marcos Highway - Tel. Nos. 645-4801 to 05 DIAMOND MOTOR - Fairview Tel. Nos.: 935-3731, 418-2045 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP. - Valle Verde - Tel. Nos.. 671-9590 to 94 UNION MOTOR CORP. - Paco (Main) - Tel. Nos.: 563-8461 to 65 / 563-8461 to 67 UNION MOTOR CORP. - Abad Santos - Tel. Nos.: 251-7021 to 36 UNION MOTOR CORP. - Kalookan - Tel. Nos 364-2061 to 69 *LUZON DEALERS:* AMCAR AUTOMOTIVE CORP.- Sta. Rosa, Laguna - Tel. Nos.: 420-8057 to 58 CALEB MOTOR CORP. - Naga City Tel. (054) 811-6110 CARWORLD, INC. - Pampanga (Main) Tel. Nos.: (045) 961-2001 to 03 CARWORLD, INC. - Malolos Tel Nos : (044) 791-6320 / 791-2405 to 08 CARWORLD, INC. - Marilao Tel. Nos.: (044) 711-2895 to 97 CARWORLD, INC. - Olongapo Tel. Nos.: (047) 222-3743 / 224-4307 CARWORLD, INC. - Tarlac Tel Nos : (0462) 982-6551 to 53 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES OF BALIUAG CORP. - Baliuag Tel Nos.: (044) 673-4083 / 766-4236 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES OF CABANATUAN CORP. - Cabanatuan (Main) Tel. Nos.: (044) 463-1391 / 463-5105 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES - Isabela Tel (078) 662-8401 JABEZ MOTOR CORP. - Dasmariñas Cavite Tel Nos.: (046) 416-5968 / 850-0119 / 416-5960 / 850-1681 MOTORPLAZA, INC. - Calasiao (Main) Tel. Nos.: (075) 517-3060 / 517-5635 MOTORPLAZA, INC. - Baguio City Tel Nos : (074) 300-3571 / 446-0157 MOTORPLAZA, INC. - La Union Tel Nos : (072) 705-5050 / 705-3834 MOTORPLAZA, INC. - Urdaneta Tel. Nos.: (075) 568-2502 / 568-3312 SFM SALES CORP. - San Pablo (Main) Tel. Nos.: (049) 562-0880 to 91 / 562-6560 SFM SALES CORP. - Lipa Tel. No.: (043) 756-1018 *VISAYAS DEALERS:* AVESCOR MOTORS - Iloilo Tel. Nos.: (033) 337-4485 / 337-6486 / 337-6487 AVESCOR MOTORS - Bacolod Tel. Nos.: (034) 435-2111 to 14 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. (Main) Tel. Nos.: (032) 346-1233 / 420-5777 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Dumaguete Tel. Nos : (035) 225-1427 to 29 / 225-6925 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Tacloban Tel. Nos : (053) 323-2520 / 323-2379 to 80 / 323-3724 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Tagbilaran Tel. Nos.: (038) 411-2661 / 411-5814 to 15 *MINDANAO DEALERS:* KARASIA, INC. - Davao (Main) Tel. Nos.: (082) 222-1111 to 16 KARASIA, INC. - Davao (South) Tel. Nos.: (082) 298-1400 to 94 / 298-0175 to 77 KARASIA, INC. - Tagum Tel Nos.: (084) 217-3582 MINDANAO INTEGRATED COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. Nos.: (083) 302-0586 to 87 (083)552-4781 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Butuan Tel Nos.: (085) 815-3089 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Cagayan de Oro Tel. Nos.: (088) 855-1540 ZAMBOANGA MOTORS, INC. Tel Nos.: (062) 991-2199 / 991-2138 / 991-2250 / 993-0788

Inventor wants to help RP save on fuel costs

By Norman Bordadora

FOR OVER 30 years, Pablo Planas and his "super gas reducer" invention were orphans just like other Filipino inventors who through the years came up with breakthrough products that could have helped the country but had insufficient government support and financial muscle.

But with an economic crisis that sent the government and the public looking for clues on how to make the most of the much-devalued peso, the spotlight (as well as lucrative development and marketing offers) has been on Planas and his fuel-saving device for gas-fed engines.

Helping the country

And now, 67-year-old former jeepney driver and auto mechanic is looking at not just helping the country save on fuel costs and decrease air pollution.

He's also looking at the possibility of helping the country address its problems, including the P80-billion budget deficit and the much bigger $57.4-billion foreign debt.

Said Planas: "All vehicles will have zero pollution and will conserve up to 50 percent of gas. That will bring down prices of goods and commodities. A big plant here will generate a lot of jobs. This would be a big help to the country."

Solving pollution

Planas said the country could also help other countries decrease their air pollution levels with his invention.

"We can solve pollution and address the problem of global warming with this device. I believe foreign banks should condone a substantial part of our foreign debt," added the inventor who has likewise dedicated his invention to addressing the problem of air pollution and related concerns.

Planas is referring to the Kyoto Protocol that offers debt write-offs to countries that come up with a technology meant to address environmental issues such as air pollution and global warming.

"The solution to pollution is in the Philippines," said Planas, who confesses he is more concerned with the pollution-limiting capability of Khaos rather than its fuel-saving aspect.

"The cause of the country's problems is pollution ... global warming. The floods and air pollution cause damage to our livelihood and health. A huge part of the country's resources are spent for these," Planas said.

Lowering CO emission

A recent demonstration in Taiwan showed that Planas' device resulted in a decrease of up to 0.1 percent in carbon monoxide emissions. This more than satisfies the 0.5 percent standard of Taiwan and is way below the 4.5 percent set by the Clean Air Act of the Philippines.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources recently tested Khaos and the invention showed that it could lower carbon monoxide emission levels to lower than 0.1 percent.

Compared to a Toyota Revo with a 3.78 percent CO emission without the device, the DENR observed that fitted with the Khaos turbo charger the vehicle lowered its CO emission to 0.09 percent.

"These are just the initial results but I'm already satisfied," said Environment Secretary Michael Defensor.

Endorsing the use of the device

Defensor said he will definitely endorse the use of the device especially in government vehicles that don't satisfy the 4.5 percent Philippine standard under the Clean Air Act.

He said he is also looking at the possibility of making it mandatory for vehicles that continuously violate the 4.5 percent standard.

"We are looking forward to presenting this device in Congress ... (to possibly amend) the Dirty Air Act," Planas said, mocking the anti-air pollution measure enacted by Congress. He said the 4.5 percent standard is still quite high compared to the 0.5 standard of the other countries like the United States and Taiwan.

"We can face anybody and show that this device works. This could reduce harmful emissions to as low as 0.1 percent," he added.

Planas hopes he can have time in Congress to push for a 0.5 percent emission standard for motor vehicles.

Marketing arm

"The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank seems open to debt relief to address environmental problems. Only recently the IMF gave a grant for the further rehabilitation of the Laguna Lake," said Francisco Catibayan, vice president for sales and marketing of Inventionhaus Inc.

Inventionhaus is the nine-month-old company formed by Planas and his investor, businessman Gerry Acuzar.

Formed only nine months ago amid countless fuel price hikes, Inventionhaus is now beset by offers from foreign and local companies for the further development and distribution of the gas-saving, air-cleaning invention—the Khaos super turbo charger.

Exclusive distributor

Ford Makati has already struck a deal with Inventionhaus making the car dealer the exclusive distributor of Khaos to car companies who want to fit their brand-new cars with the gas-saving and pollution control device.

After its stint in Taiwan, Khaos also joined the largest motor show in Germany this September to showcase its abilities to reduce fuel consumption and harmful emissions. Apart from a host of European companies offering to buy the device, a local car distributor has reportedly offered to be sole dealer of Khaos.

The government has also shown interest in Khaos.

DOE findings

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez has reported the DOE findings that it really improves fuel mileage by as much as 50 percent.

The DOE tests included such vehicles as a Toyota Corolla taxicab, a Ford Expedition, a Toyota Revo and a Honda Accord. The results showed a fuel mileage improvements of around 15 percent for the Expedition to as much as 200 percent for the Accord.

Planas has also demonstrated the product to the Land Transportation Office.

Planas has been explicit in saying he wants the Filipinos and the country to benefit from the device and not allow the multinationals to cash in.

"This invention is for Filipinos. If I sell this to foreigners, it would no longer be affordable for our countrymen," Planas said.

Also for diesel soon

While Khaos is designed only for gasoline engines, Planas is now working on a similar device for diesel-fed engines of trucks and buses and a smaller device for motorcycles.

"A mini-version will be launched this November for tricycles and motorcycles. This means savings. This means more power, less maintenance and zero pollution (from this sector of public transport)," Planas said.

"The diesel line will surely be launched by February 2005. This would be for the jeeps, buses and trucks," he said.

He added that there would soon be devices for other motors except airplanes.

"Airplanes no longer have pollution problems," Planas said. "They don't need this device."

Before Acuzar invested in Planas' invention, the inventor himself assembled the Khaos units and sold them to neighbors, friends and to whoever is interested. It was hardly the process done by an inventor recognized for his invention as early as the 1970s.

"There was a time that I'd even pay drivers their boundary and gasoline just so they'd use my device for me to be able to test it," Acuzar said.

The inventor, who has received the Tuklas Award and the Most Outstanding Invention Award during the Marcos administration, continued to develop his "super gas reducer" through the years. The present-day Khaos is actually the fourth in Planas' development line of gas and emission reducers

Air-regulating device

Khaos works as an air-regulating device which introduces the right amount of air required to ensure complete combustion. With an air to gas ratio of 15 parts air to one part gas, Khaos ensures complete combustion, resulting in less fuel consumption and almost zero carbon monoxide emission.

Unlike the catalytic converter, it is a precombustion device installed in the intake manifold of the engine. It ensures that unburned fuel that eventually turn into pollutants are burned for the engine to use as added power.

"Without pollution, there'd be many benefits. There'd be less need for tune ups and change oil. The engine and its parts will last longer," Planas said.

"If you want to save gas, just don't use the car for a while. *Nakatipid ka na nun*," he said.

Prestone takes on advocacy for road safety, responsible driving

A FEW months ago, a morning TV show ran a segment that tested public utility drivers' knowledge on road signs. As expected, each segment turned out as a comedy of sorts, with the drivers giving bogus answers to basic questions about the meaning of the road signs.

Different sectors aired their disgust and concern for the very poor level of awareness on road signs not just among public utility drivers but other motorists as well, who should know such basic knowledge even before they earn their driver's license. Knowing your road signs is a must for responsible driving and road safety—and knowing nothing about it is no laughing matter; it can lead to accidents and worse.

Prestone Brake Fluid, the country's No. 1 brand of brake fluid, has always been a staunch advocate of road safety and responsible driving. To further strengthen its road safety advocacy campaign, flyers containing basic road signs will be distributed to jeepney drivers.

Prestone gives the following tips on road safety and responsible driving:

- **Know and obey all traffic signs and signals.**
- **Keep a good consistent driving distance from the vehicle in front of you.** Avoid clumps of cars on the highway so you're not involved in someone else's accident.
- **Check your mirrors frequently.** Look far down the road and keep your eyes moving to spot any problems before you reach them.
- **Keep right except to pass.** Don't try to block speeders; leave the policing to the police and traffic enforcers.
- **Signal lane changes as well as turns.**
- **Brake at the right time.** Slow down to a safe speed before you enter a turn. Hard braking in mid-corner can upset the car's balance. And use only a reliable brake fluid like Prestone.
- **If your vehicle is equipped with an antilock brake system (ABS), try using it.** Don't wait for an emergency. On a rainy day, find a deserted, slippery road or empty parking lot and hit the brakes hard enough to actuate the ABS, so you'll know what it feels like.
- **Don't phone while you drive.** A recent study found that using a mobile or car phone while driving quadruples the risk of having an accident.
- **Don't drive when you're sleepy, drunk or unwell.**
- **Fasten your seatbelt once you get inside the vehicle.** Experts in the industry agree that using seatbelts reduces the risk of serious injury or death in an accident by about 50 percent.
- **The safest place for a child is in the backseat with the safety belt properly used.**
- **Always be aware of pedestrians at intersections.** Remember, pedestrians have the right of way.

What to look for when choosing the right vehicle…

From page C5

- **Tires.** Good tires are just as important as good brakes. A quality tire can improve stopping distances, especially in poor weather. Tread wear grades are an indication of a tire's relative wear rate. The higher the tread wear number is, the longer it should take for the tread to wear down.
- **Handling.** Good handling is essential for emergency maneuvers needed to avoid accidents. Poor handling can be dangerous, and can even lead to rollovers. In general, the independent suspensions found in cars and minivans allow for better handling than in most body-on-frame trucks and SUVs.
- **Acceleration.** Emergency acceleration can sometimes help avoid an accident. While most cars are acceptable in this regard some high-end models have new 6-speed manual transmission and a shorter shift "throws" on the 6-speed stick from neutral to each gear.
- **Traction Control and AWD (all-wheel drive).** These features can also improve traction in poor weather or off-road conditions. They are very useful in areas with poor road conditions like potholes, or for those who frequently use their vehicles off-road.
- **Visibility.** Many factors contribute to this very important feature. The design of the windows and pillars can cause serious blind spots in some vehicles. Higher vehicles tend to offer a better view of traffic, especially if you need to see through another high vehicle.
- **Weight and Length.** Weight is a big factor in reducing injuries. The more your vehicles weighs, the less your momentum will change in a multivehicle crash. This can reduce the forces on passengers in a multivehicle crash. Longer vehicles tend to have longer crush zones. Properly designed, these help give passengers more time to "ride-down" the crash and spread the high crash forces over a longer period of time.
- **Vehicle Construction.** This can be difficult to assess, but some vehicles have advanced safety cage designs and more effective crush zones. Some vehicles have little to no roof reenforcement for protection in a rollover, while others have "Roll Hoops" or structural rings to protect the roof and sides from collapse.

Accessories

- **Seatbelts.** These may be one of the biggest factors in auto safety. Properly used, lap and shoulder belts save lives. There are many advances in seatbelt design.

Newer systems have pretensioners and force-limiters which can reduce the severity of injuries. Although front belts can be used to install some child seats, they are not safe for adults or children in boosters.

- **Airbags.** Airbags also save lives, especially when used with seatbelts. Newer systems use less inflation force to reduce some types of airbag-related injuries. Other systems use sensors to detect the severity of a crash, and adjust the airbag force accordingly. Older frontal passenger airbags which deploy horizontally tend to be more dangerous than those that deploy vertically. Side airbags are also becoming more common. A third generation of advanced airbags with sensor systems will begin to appear in model year 2004 vehicles.
- **Head Restraints.** Good headrests can prevent whiplash. Some luxury models have dynamic systems which can reduce head and neck injury. It is also becoming more common to have head restraints in all seating positions.
- **Airbag Cutoff Switch.** Children and smaller adults may not be safe with a front passenger airbag. Front airbags are especially dangerous to rear-facing car seats. Some vehicles have switches to deactivate the airbag as a standard feature.
- **Lights and Signals.** Good headlights can improve night visibility. Daytime Running Lamps/Lights (DRLs) may help increase visibility to other motorists and pedestrians.

Properly aimed fog lights can help you see the lines at the side of the road under poor visibility. Bright, well-placed turning signals give advance warning to other drivers of your intentions. Some models also have reverse lights, for backing at night.

- **Reverse Sensing.** With the trend to higher and larger vehicles, some now come with reverse sensing detectors or cameras. They now come with the reverse-sensing system that can prevent impacts with children or objects that might be below your line of sight. They can also be used to help in tight parking situations.
- **Shift Interlock.** Most, but not all vehicles, have this feature to prevent children from accidentally putting a vehicle into gear, unless the brake is applied.
- **Mirrors.** Often overlooked, mirrors may help overall visibility outside the vehicle. Small mirrors may leave blind spots. Auto-dimming rear-view mirrors can reduce temporary blindness from high or bright headlights. Wide angle inside mirrors can help a driver monitor children in back while keeping their head forward.

Who's behind the wheel?

Finally, there's no such thing as a totally safe car. Thanks to legislation, automotive safety is improving. For example, all vehicles are now required to have airbags.

Vehicles are safer today than they were 15 or 20 years ago and there's no question that cars are better designed these days to handle crashes.

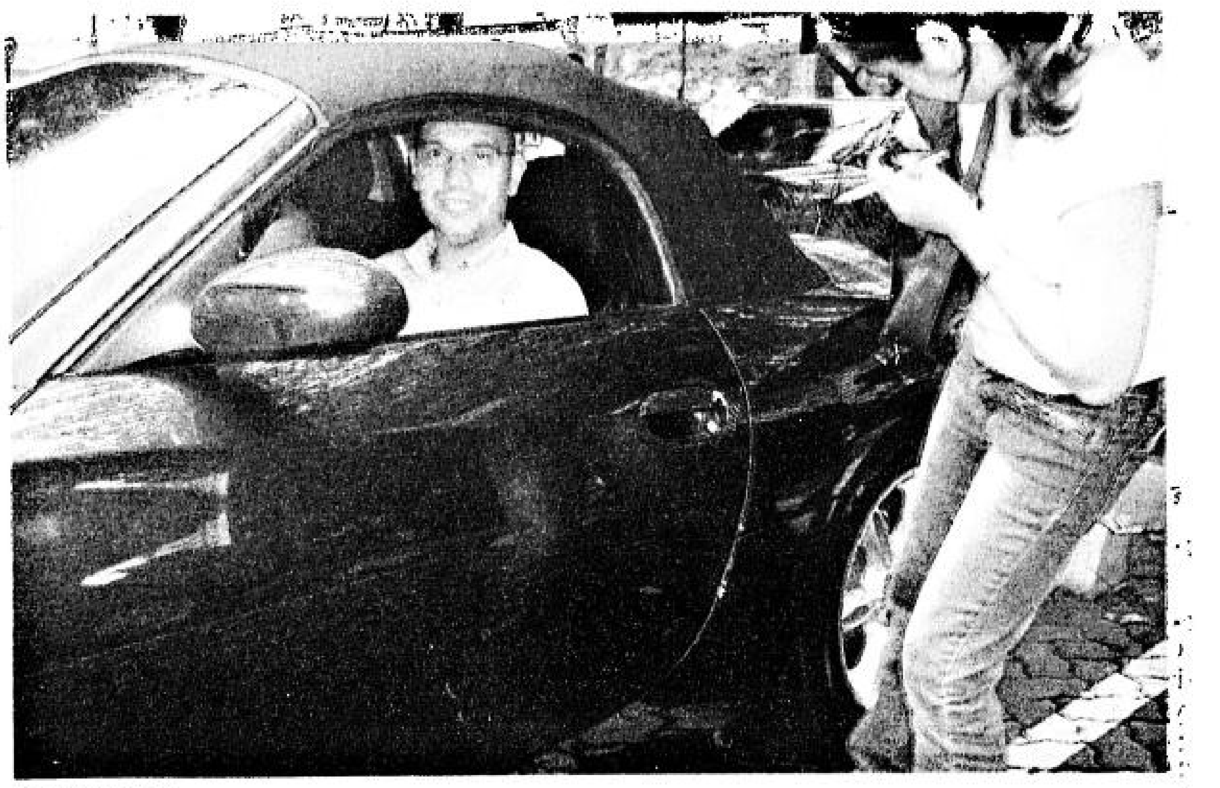
Seatbelts are also better designed so that the belt itself does not injure an occupant and still protect them from hitting the windshield.

A seatbelt is a protection as long as the passengers wear it. Tire enhancement which mean better handling has improved in the last 15 years. Yet, if the driver does not make a conscious effort to check if the tires are underinflated, which is a cause of a lot of accidents, the improved features are useless.

In the end, no matter how safe the vehicle is, the way it's driven has a lot to do with whether you'll suffer a serious injury or come home safe. That's why it's called "the driver seat."

BMW Philippines president lets his guard down, finally

By Tessa R. Salazar



BREUER proud of the Bimmer

HE'S towering at 6'4", intimidating more so with his thick German accent and that stern-looking stiff-upper lip we thought only the Britons have. Since he set foot on Philippine soil eight weeks ago, the new president of BMW Philippines seems to have never let down his guard.

Carrying himself in a business-like manner we assume on a 24/7 basis, he has built an image of dead seriousness, blunt frankness and dry wit so completely the opposite of his jolly predecessor from "Middle Earth" Mark Gilbert.

Believe it or not, behind that sullen countenance is a pleased man. Dr. Joerg Breuer (pronounced as "Bro-yer," like Tag Heuer) actually likes it here, and as proof, he says he had been in the country several times already since 1995 when he was still based in Singapore. He says he knows the Philippines very well.

Two Fridays ago, this writer drove a BMW Z4 test unit, among other BMW Z owners, at a German-car motorcade along Ayala Avenue to celebrate the German Month in the Philippines, when she chanced upon Breuer.

New guy on the block

Intrigued by the media "horror stories" from this "fire-breathing dragon," this writer approached the new guy on the block, albeit cautiously. The game plan was simple: ask an innocent question, like, "Can a large German like you fit into a small German-made coupé like this?" Either that would pique him enough to start a conversation, or tick him off and dismiss me as another stupid girl asking a stupid question.

Fortunately, the first reaction came through. Standing straight up and inhaling deeply (I thought I was toasted by then, as the "dragon" readied its scalding tongue) he smiled warmly, took the Z4 top down, and said. "Feel the wind, feel the elements. That is what the car is made for."

Good start

Huh? Now that wasn't exactly the answer I was looking for. But it was a good start. At least I got him talking. "The Z4 is about going somewhere in order to experience something. The ride of going there is already an experience."

I was about to repeat my first question, but Breuer already opened the door and sat on the Z4. His long body snugged in and he didn't even have to squeeze his butt all the way to the bottom. He stretched his legs out. "Compared to a lot of other roadsters here, there is so much leg room on the Z4," he quipped.

Roomy roadster

"This is one of roomiest roadsters that have ever existed in the market." I'll take his word, coming from a man tall enough to be a PBA center.

If he had time, he said he would get a roadster and a motorcycle. To be exact, a BMW F650 motorcycle from Motorrad and join his biker friends from the BMW motorcycle club.

It was obvious that this man liked to travel, and he enjoyed the ride as much as the destination. "Before coming to Asia, we took a convertible and drove from Munich all the way to Italy and Naples, back to Rome then to Sardinia, all the while with open top for 3,000 km. It was extremely enjoyable. The car you're driving makes the difference. The way you drive it makes the difference."

Doesn't the road condition also make a difference in a long road trip? He replied that roads in the Philippines weren't as bad as we thought. He said Russia had worse roads because of the extreme weather changes between winters and summers.

What Z4 is

But what is a Z4, actually, a performance or a pleasure car? He said BMW offers its M models (M3 and M5) for performance drivers. "I believe somebody who drives a Z3 here does it for his personal pleasure, for cruising, knowing that you have the power if you need it but to generally cruise and enjoy the ride and the stares."

Is he happy about how BMW Philippines has been performing? It certainly seemed so, as he remarked that the previous month saw BMW increase its sales in September 2004 by 109 percent compared to September of last year. He added that what fuels this increase is the Filipino motorists' knowledge and appreciation of German car brands.

"When you look into car sales, German car manufacturers virtually occupy the entire premium category, or precisely 90 percent of it." And in that category, Breuer said, BMW occupies 60 percent.

BMW motorcycles, in particular, are enjoying brisk sales. The BS 1200 Enduro version, in fact, has to put orders on the waiting list. "We cannot get enough motorcycles," Breuer said.

Important market

Breuer said the Philippines is an important market for BMW. "In Southeast Asia, the Philippines is one of the biggest in the premium market."

And because of its global nature, Breuer said the BMW brand has its own culture. "We are BMW. It is not only German, it is not American, it's not Filipino. It is BMW. The German event here just really shows that every brand has its own character."

Breuer might have also been speaking about himself. Growing ever enigmatic, the new BMW president showed a bit of his "wild" self at the Oktoberfest party held at the NBC tent two weeks ago. There, clad in checkered polo shirt, he finally let his guard down and danced the "funky chicken" with other partygoers.

Recalling that, I finally believed Breuer when he said he enjoyed the country. "If I didn't like it here, I wouldn't have come back," he said, smiling.

He might have remembered the same night, too.

(Next week: Driving with my top down with the Z4)

> In Southeast Asia, the Philippines is one of the biggest in the premium market

Fuel-economy run produces amazing results

THE WINNERS of the Honda-Petron Amazing Fuel Eco

LAST Saturday morning, 24 proud Honda City owners took the challenge of setting the best fuel efficiency from their i-DSI engine. With a set course from Petron SLEX to Petron Lipa, participants to Honda-Petron Amazing Fuel Eco leisurely took the road after getting a tankful of Petron Blaze and the event road book.

Honda Cars Philippines Inc. in cooperation with Petron Corp. embarked on a fuel-economy event to drum up awareness of efficient-driving techniques in the face of spiraling cost of gasoline.

The first of the four-leg series traversed a 53-kilometer stretch of highway driving using normal, day-to-day driving style. The Honda City owners, joined by 14 journalists squeezed "amazing" fuel mileage from the Honda City.

As early as 6 a.m., participants eagerly awaited for the registration at Honda Cars Makati in Magallanes. After securing the necessary materials, participants proceeded to Petron SLEX to fill up their City's with Petron Blaze 97 percent octane gasoline. Fuel lid, hood, trunk and air-conditioning dials were sealed by Honda officials to set uniform driving conditions among the participants. The entire proceedings were observed by representatives of the Automobile Association Philippines and the Department of Energy.

With the air-conditioning unit turned on, participants applied all permissible fuel-economizing techniques as they strive to achieve the least fuel consumption. Upon reaching Petron Lipa, vehicles were refueled and fuel consumption computed.

Results of the run

Thrill and excitement filled the air of Mt. Malarayat Golf and Country Club as participants awaited the results of the run. Joanne Antonio registered 29.60 km/li. Driving a City with CVT transmission while Gerardo Gaviola posted 28.93 km/li. in his City with manual transmission. They were each rewarded with P10,000 cash prize, Kenwood stereo and free Honda Hydrophilic Paint Protection for posting the best fuel efficiency.

For the media category, Motoring Today's Butch Gamboa registered 29.36 km/li. using 1.3 Honda Jazz CVT while C! Magazine's Iñigo Roces posted the highest fuel mileage of 30.36 km/li. With Petron Blaze in his tank, Roces' trip to Lipa merely cost him approximately P49. Really amazing!

The Amazing Fuel Eco Run aims to rigidly test the i-DSI engine by undertaking different destinations with different road and traffic conditions.

Second leg

The second leg is scheduled on Oct. 23 as customers from Yuchengco dealers will head out toward Northern Luzon on the way to Fontana Leisure Parks. Qualified Honda City owners are invited to join and register at all participating Honda dealerships in Quezon City, Kalookan, Manila, Marikina and Fairview. Online registration is also possible through www.hondaphil.com. The Amazing Fuel Eco Run is made possible through Honda's partnership with Petron Blaze and with the support from sponsors, Kenwood, 3M Scotch Tint and Rota wheels.

Top 5 results are as follows:

CVT Class—1) **Randy Ravena**, 9.60 km/li.; 2) Reynaldo Gavile, 29.25; 3) Clementino Banzon, 27.67; 4) Ma. Sarah Divinagracia, 27.59; 5) Marie Gail Camus, 27.45

MT Class—1) **Gerardo Gaviola**, 28.93 km/li.; 2) Roberto de Jesus, 28.52; 3) Arnold Juan, 22.68; 4) John de los Reyes, 20.80; 5) Rusell Balbalcal, 19.52.

Mitsubishi tops commercial vehicle sales in September

MITSUBISHI Motors Philippines led total commercial vehicles sales for September 2004 based on combined reports provided by the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. (Campi) and Truck Manufacturers Association.

Mitsubishi sold a total of 990 units of commercial vehicles composed of Adventure, L300, Space Gear, L200 pickups, Outlander and Pajero SUVs and Fuso Canter light trucks, in September for a 22.2 percent market share of the total commercial vehicle category.

Toyota Motors Philippines sold only a total of 929 units of commercial vehicles in September but nonetheless led total overall sales with 2,029 units for a 27.3 percent market share due to its strong passenger car sales performance.

Mitsubishi though reported that sales of its commercial vehicles in September dropped slightly by 3 percent versus August. It attributes the decline to the limited supply of its saleable units such as Adventure, L300 and Pajero models brought about by shortage in local parts by its vendor.

Said Mitsubishi Motors Philippines assistant vice president for marketing services Froilan Dytianquin: "We are still optimistic that the last quarter will produce better sales performance for the automotive industry due to seasonality, and the aggressiveness of all assemblers to carry out consumer-related promotions to make vehicles more affordable.

"For MMPC, we project better sales this month due to improved availability of our Adventure models, Dytianquin said. "We are also very pleased that sales of the Adventure models have been improving for the past few months and this can only be credited to the Adventure's improved quality level and good overall value for money proposition," he added.

Mitsubishi also reported that sales of its passenger cars, mainly composed of the Lancer 1.6-liter models, improved by 65 percent, with sales of 187 units against 113 units in August.

Both Toyota and Honda dominated the passenger car sales for September with sales of 1,093 units (36.5 percent market share) and 712 units (23.8 percent market share), respectively due to its small passenger car sales.

Meantime, Mitsubishi was able to keep its No. 2 position in overall year-to-date sales with total sales of 9,298 units, representing 14.4 percent market share. Toyota leads the industry, with 21,912 units for a 33.9 percent market share. Honda ranks third with a total of 8,317 units for a 12.9 percent market share.

Ford asserts strong SUV heritage

FORD Explorer with the Eddie Bauer badge

OVER THE PAST decade, Ford SUVs have provided the functionality, versatility, durability and reliability, safety and performance that customers look for in a true sport utility vehicle whether it be a full-size, mid-size or small-size SUV.

Globally and locally, Ford offers the broadest and most far-reaching SUV lineup, including the Ford Expedition, Everest, Escape and the soon-to-be-launched in the Philippines, Explorer.

Evolution

The Ford Explorer, since its US debut in 1990, has evolved from a rugged, truck-like utilitarian vehicle to a more well-appointed family-style vehicle with many upscale comforts, while maintaining the Ford truck's traditional off-road durability. Since then, the Ford Explorer has changed the face of the sport utility market as we know it.

For the past 13 years, the Ford Explorer has been America's best-selling SUV. Its success in the US market can be attributed to its ability to provide its passengers the functionality, convenience, safety and innovation that are expected from a hardworking sport utility vehicle.

Top ranking

In 2002, the Explorer ranked at the top of the US National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's crash testing. Apart from the recognitions it has received in the last 13 years, it's the testimonies of discerning owners of the Explorer that may be one of the reasons there are more Ford Explorers on the road worldwide than any other SUVs in its class.

This best-selling SUV in the US will soon make its debut in the Philippine market, thus completing the lineup of SUVs Ford offers its Filipino customers in addition to top favorites such as the Ford Expedition, Everest and Escape.

Reinforcing dominance

Ford SUVs currently account for 28 percent of the total SUV segment. The introduction of the Explorer is expected to further reinforce Ford's dominance in the SUV category. Ford demonstrates its superiority in its SUV lineup by offering customers the widest choice of engines (4-,6- or 8-cylinder engines) in diesel or gasoline and 4x4 and 4x2 power trains.

The Ford Explorer will have the authentic Ford SUV styling that is active, dynamic and classy. Its Eddie Bauer badging and features will highlight the vehicle's unparalleled luxury, power and safety known to Ford. The Explorer will be powered by a 4.0-L V6 engine.

Ford dealerships

The Explorer will soon be available at Ford dealerships nationwide. In Metro Manila Ford dealerships can be found in Alabang, Balintawak, Commonwealth, Edsa, Libis, Makati, Manila, Quezon Avenue and Shaw Boulevard.

In the provinces, Ford dealerships can be found in Bacolod, Cabanatuan, Cagayan de Oro, Cavite, Cebu, Dagupan, Davao, Iloilo, Pampanga and San Pablo.

Kymco launches AXR 110

SC KYMCO Pilipinas recently launched its latest motorcycle model, the Kymco AXR 110, at the Wack-Wack Golf and Country Club.

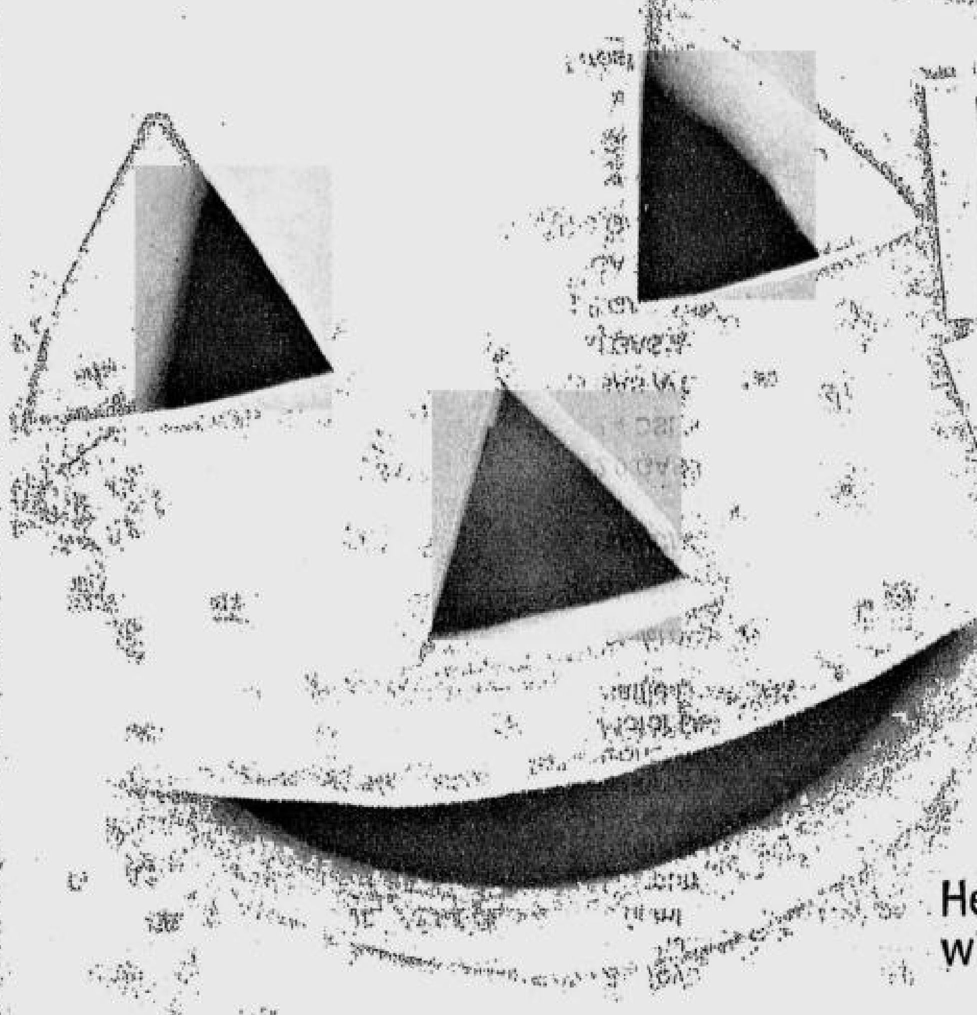
Answering the need for a dual purpose-type motorcycle with the riding ease of an under-bone moped, the AXR 110 is equipped with a smooth and powerful 4-stroke 110cc single that meets Euro 1 emission standards.

Sporting bigger diameter front forks, fork boots, cross bar pad, color bulbs, cut-through designed shroud, big headlamp assembly and off-set front fork, the AXR 110 surpasses the specifications of its competitor and includes these features: 17-inch tires, front disc brake and rear drum brake, electric and kick starter, CDI, VM-type carburetor, auto clutch system, box type swing arm and pinion bar. Fuel economy is estimated at 59 kilometers per liter.

Kymco is confident that the new bike will exceed the buyer's expectations when it comes to performance, economy and looks while those who like to customize their bikes can be assured of the large number of motorcycle accessories that will bolt on directly to it.

The Kymco AXR 110 is now available at Motortrade and several of its branches nationwide.

TOYOTA



HALLO-WINS and TREATS!

Here's a deal you can't resist this Halloween! Get a chance to win one of 6 Toyota REVOs, 3 to be raffled off every 2 weeks. Winning has never been this easy!

REVO
REVO
REVO

REVO
REVO
REVO

Hurry, buy any Toyota* from your nearest Toyota dealer for a chance to win a brand new REVO GL. Deadline of entries is on October 15 for the 1ST raffle draw on October 21, 2004. Non-winning entries are still eligible for the 2ND raffle draw.

Here's how:

- All Toyota vehicles* are included in this promo. For every purchase of any of the participating models, consumers get a number of raffle coupons depending on the model bought.
- Consumers should fill up the coupon with his/her name, address, age, telephone number, mobile number, model purchased, chassis #, dealer outlet, Toyota sales person name and affix their signature.
- Consumers may drop their coupons at their nearest Toyota Motor Dealer.
- Raffle Draw is on October 16 and 31, 2004.

**Except Corolla XL and Hilux DLX variants*

TYPE OF CAR	Number of Coupon/s
PRADO	8 coupons
PREVIA	7 coupons
CAMRY 3.0V	7 coupons
CAMRY 2.4V (new/old)	6 coupons
CAMRY 2.4E	5 coupons
ALTIS 1.8	4 coupons
ALTIS 1.6	3 coupons
VIOS 1.5G	2 coupons
VIOS 1.3E	1 coupon
REVO (all variants)	3 coupons
HILUX 4X4 SR5	5 coupons
HILUX 4x2 XS	3 coupons
HIACE (all variants)	5 coupons
RAV4 4X4	5 coupons
RAV4 4X2	4 coupons

You can own a Revo through our great Toyota Financing Treats:

- *Down payment for as low as **P100,000** for all variants*
- *Low monthly payments for the REVO DLX Gas at P6,895 at 50% down payment at 60 months*
- *Low monthly interest rates*
- *Consumers who participate in this financing promotion will also have a chance to participate in the raffle promotion*

REVO FINANCING SCHEMES

VARIANT	SRP	LOW DP	12	18	24	36	48	60
VX200 2.0 GAS A/T [Leather]	970,000	100,000	74,464	51,326	40,663	29,296	23,903	20,274
VX200 2.4 DSL M/T [Leather]	958,000	100,000	75,168	51,811	41,028	29,559	24,118	20,466
SR 1.8 GAS A/T	896,000	100,000	67,788	46,725	37,021	26,672	21,762	18,456
GSX 2.0 GAS A/T	847,000	100,000	63,368	43,678	34,610	24,935	20,345	17,253
GLX 1.8 GAS A/T	807,000	100,000	59,760	41,191	32,642	23,517	19,188	16,270
GL 1.8 GAS M/T	698,000	100,000	49,927	34,413	27,278	19,652	16,035	13,593
DLX 1.8 GAS M/T [15.08%]	663,000	100,000	46,917	32,237	25,555	18,411	15,022	12,734
DLX 1.8 GAS M/T [50%]	663,000	331,500	27,625	18,417	14,094	10,060	8,175	6,895
DLX 2.4 DSL M/T	690,000	100,000	50,991	35,147	27,840	20,057	16,365	13,883

For areas covered by Toyota Financial Services

FOR A TOYOTA, GO TO TOYOTA.

Rush to your nearest Toyota dealer for our latest treat! This nationwide promo is good from October 2 to 30, 2004 only.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2287 Series of 2004.

3 YEAR WARRANTY 100,000 KM

www.toyota.com.ph

TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 858-8500

TOYOTA DEALER NETWORK: **TOYOTA ALABANG, INC.** Alabang-Zapote Rd cor. Concha Cruz Drive 800-0801 to 32 / 802-1991 **TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY**, Gardenville Subdivision, Araneta St., Bacolod City (034) 444-1811 to 13 **TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY** Bokawkan Road cor. Aguila St., Baguio City (074) 447-0851 / (074) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4128 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 **TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC.** EDSA cor. Vicente Ang & Gen. Evangelista Sts., Kalookan City 366-8901 to 06 / 364-1547 to 50 / 364-4071 to 75 **TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH** 1010 Epifanio De Los Santos Ave (EDSA) Quezon City 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 / 69 **TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC.**, Diversion Road, Barangay Balagtas, Batangas City (043) 723-7386 / (043) 723-7639 **TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC.** Km. 118 Maharlika Highway, Daang Sarile, Cabanatuan City (044) 463 8481 to 87 **TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC.** Km. 3 National Highway, Kauswagan, Cagayan de Oro City (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 / (088) 858-9994 / (088) 858-7770 (08822) 737-480 **TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC.** 34 M.J. Cuenco St., Cebu City (032) 253-1161 **TOYOTA CEBU-MANDAUE** Tabok, Mandaue City (032) 345-8670 **TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH** Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City 952-1021 to 27 **TOYOTA CUBAO, INC.** 926 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City 911-0651 to 63 **TOYOTA DAGUPAN CITY, INC.**, Diversion Road, Barangay San Miguel, Calasiao, Pangasinan (075) 517-2026 to 28 (075) 522-6771 / 6734/ 4773 **TOYOTA DASMARIÑAS CAVITE**, Salitran II, Aguinaldo Highway, Dasmariñas, Cavite (046) 850-2597 / (02) 529-8115 (trunk line) **TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC.** Km. 6 Lanang, Davao City (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234-8640 **TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC.** Gran Plains Subd., Jaro, Iloilo City (033) 320-6115 to 19 **TOYOTA MAKATI INC.**, Ayala cor. Metropolitan Avenues, Makati City 897-3333 **TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP.**, Roxas Boulevard cor. EDSA Extension, Pasay City 832-3408 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 / 832-3437 **TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION** Brgy. Sto. Niño Sumulong Highway cor. Toyota Ave., Marikina City 682-9701 to 03 **TOYOTA OTIS, INC.**, 1770 Paz M. Guazon St., Paco, Manila 564-1811 to 20 **TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC.** 2292 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City 893-8084 **TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC.**, 728 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 712-5001 to 06 **TOYOTA SHAW, INC.**, 309 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3009 (telefax) **TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS** 124 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bo. Ugong, Pasig City 671-9854 to 64 / 671-0460

TOYOTA

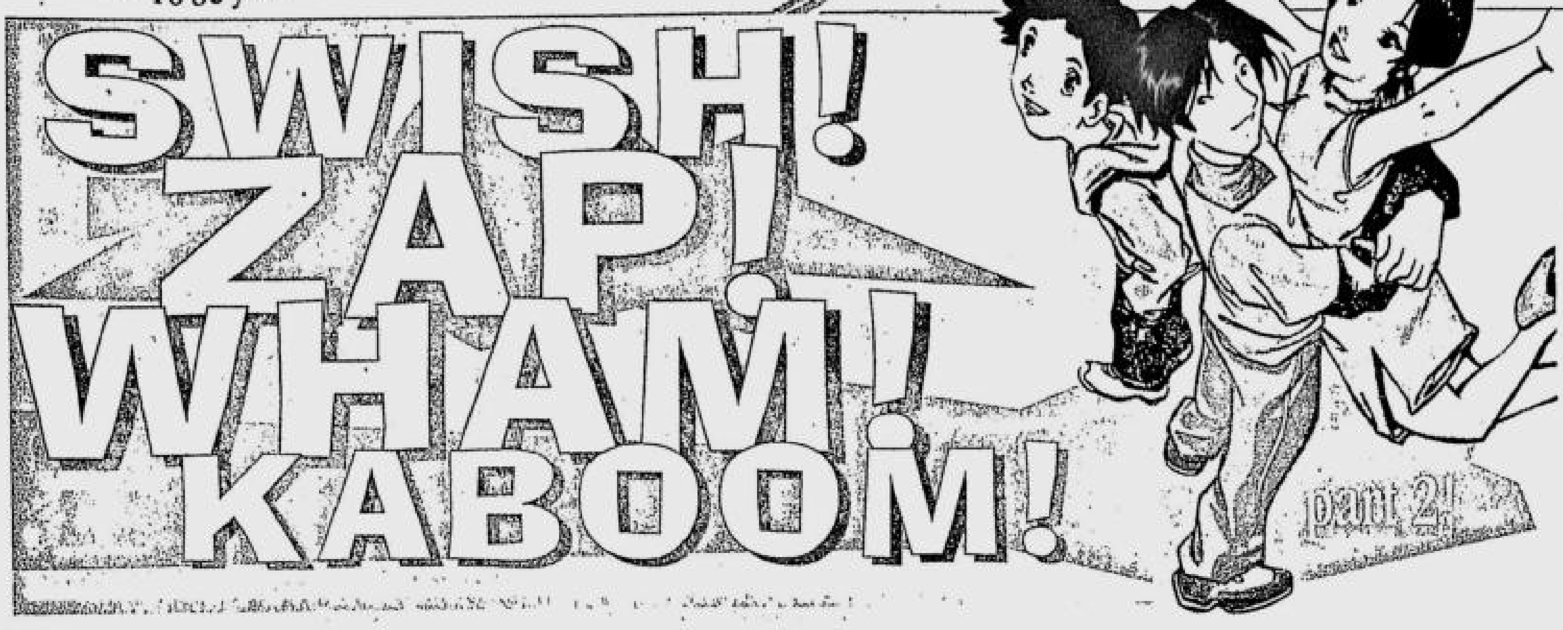
to be young • to be you • to be young • To be you! • 2bU!

LIFESTYLE

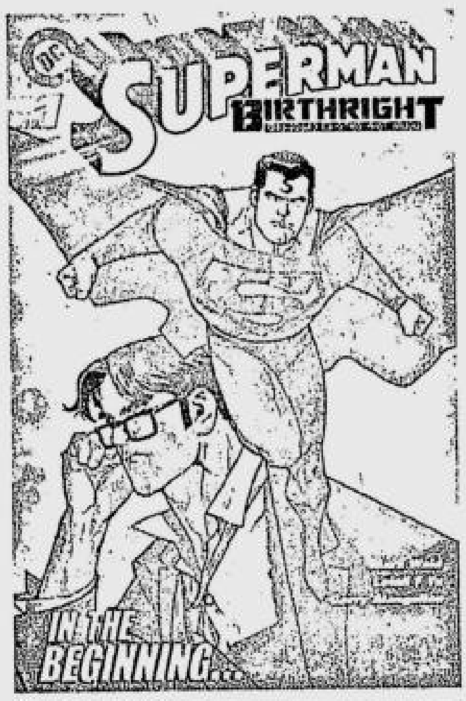
For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Chelo Banal-Formoso
Pam Pastor

SILKY-SMOOTH.
HAIR-FREE
LEGS.
Call the Facial Care Centre for LaserLight
892 SKIN (7546)


SWISH!
ZAP!
WHAM!
KABOOM!
part 2!

Due to insistent readers' demand, 2bU! brings back the comic book special issue—focusing on the new rage for the graphic novel, its leading practitioners and most innovative illustrators—the genre that enthralls young and old Filipinos . . . in the grandest living colors



...THERE was Smallville. Leinil Yu's "Birthright"

A doodler's dream day job

At 27, Leinil Francis Yu has illustrated more than 20 comic books and released his own creations. Oh, and he also sings and plays the guitar

Text and photos by Maui V. Reyes
2bU! Correspondent

IF Leinil Francis Yu were a comic book hero, he'd be an illustrator by day and a musician by night. At least, that's what one can surmise with a look at his living room.

Dozens of DVDs are stacked next to electric guitars and pedal effects, and a drawing board is propped next to two huge computer monitors, with a wacom tablet within reach.

"I like to draw in front of the TV," he says sheepishly. "You know, to keep me company."

To those in the band scene, Nil, as he's called, is the guitarist and vocalist of the band Marty McFly. To those in the comic book industry, he's Leinil Francis Yu, ex-Marvel illustrator and the one responsible for those fab images in the Superman Birthright series.

And then of course, there are people like Annette of Fatal Posporos who thinks he's the doppelganger of Jugs Jugueta of the itchyworms! ("I'm way cuter than him," Yu jokes).

At 27, Yu has illustrated more than 20 comic books for Marvel Comics, and has released his own comic books at DC, as well as wowed Superman fans with his work on "Birthright."

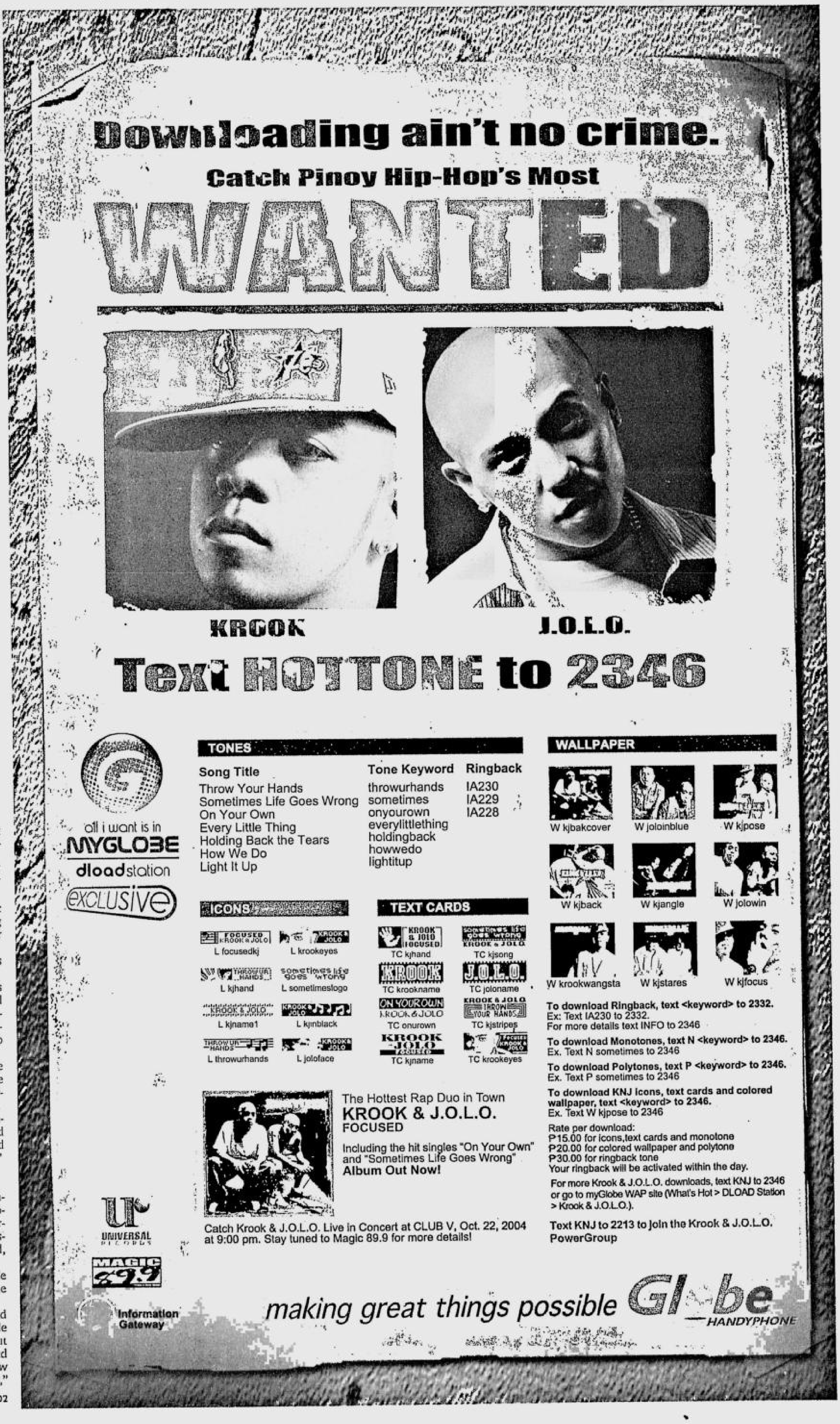
Getting his big break

Growing up, Yu, who took up Visual Communications at the University of the Philippines, wasn't into big comic book superheroes. It was the Ghostbusters and Transformers that he wanted a piece of. He did, however, spend most of his time doodling.

"I used to draw in front of my teacher while taking tests," he remembers. "I'd finish the test early and draw."

It was only in high school when he picked up a comic book and really got into it. He didn't pay much attention to the stories, but instead, focused on the illustrations. "I liked Image Comics, like Spawn and all those new stuff. They had nice paper and nice coloring,"

A DOODLER'S/ D2


Downloading ain't no crime.
Catch Pinoy Hip-Hop's Most
WANTED
KROOK
J.O.L.O.
Text HOTTONE to 2346

all i want is in MYGLOBE dloadstation exclusive

TONES

Song Title	Tone Keyword	Ringback
Throw Your Hands	throwurhands	IA230
Sometimes Life Goes Wrong	sometimes	IA229
On Your Own	onyourown	IA228
Every Little Thing	everylittlething	
Holding Back the Tears	holdingback	
How We Do	howwedo	
Light It Up	lightitup	

ICONS
L focusedkj
L krookeyes
L kjhand
L sometimeslogo
L kjname1
L kjinblack
L throwurhands
L jololace

TEXT CARDS
TC kjhand
TC kjsong
TC krookname
TC joloname
TC onurown
TC kjstripes
TC kjname
TC krookeyes

WALLPAPER
W kjbakcover
W joloinblue
W kjpose
W kjback
W kjangle
W jolowin
W krookwangsta
W kjstares
W kjfocus

To download Ringback, text <keyword> to 2332.
Ex: Text IA230 to 2332.
For more details text INFO to 2346

To download Monotones, text N <keyword> to 2346.
Ex. Text N sometimes to 2346

To download Polytones, text P <keyword> to 2346.
Ex. Text P sometimes to 2346

To download KNJ icons, text cards and colored wallpaper, text <keyword> to 2346.
Ex. Text W kjpose to 2346

Rate per download:
₱15.00 for icons,text cards and monotone
₱20.00 for colored wallpaper and polytone
₱30.00 for ringback tone
Your ringback will be activated within the day.

For more Krook & J.O.L.O. downloads, text KNJ to 2346 or go to myGlobe WAP site (What's Hot > DLOAD Station > Krook & J.O.L.O.).

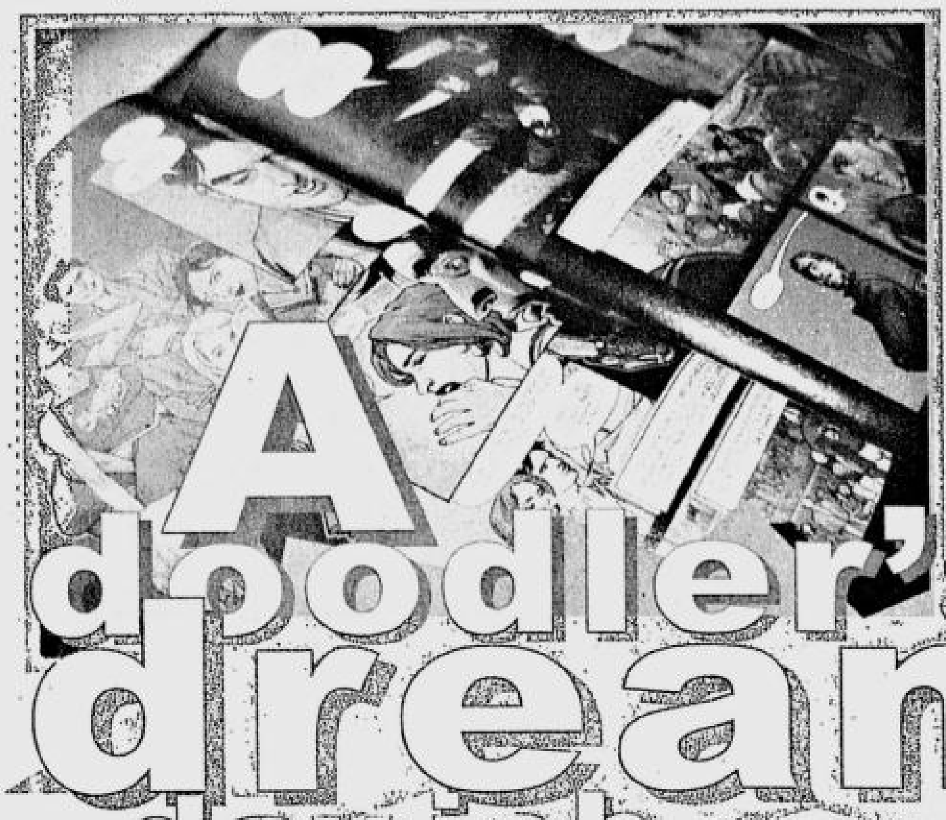
Text KNJ to 2213 to join the Krook & J.O.L.O. PowerGroup

The Hottest Rap Duo in Town
KROOK & J.O.L.O.
FOCUSED
Including the hit singles "On Your Own" and "Sometimes Life Goes Wrong"
Album Out Now!

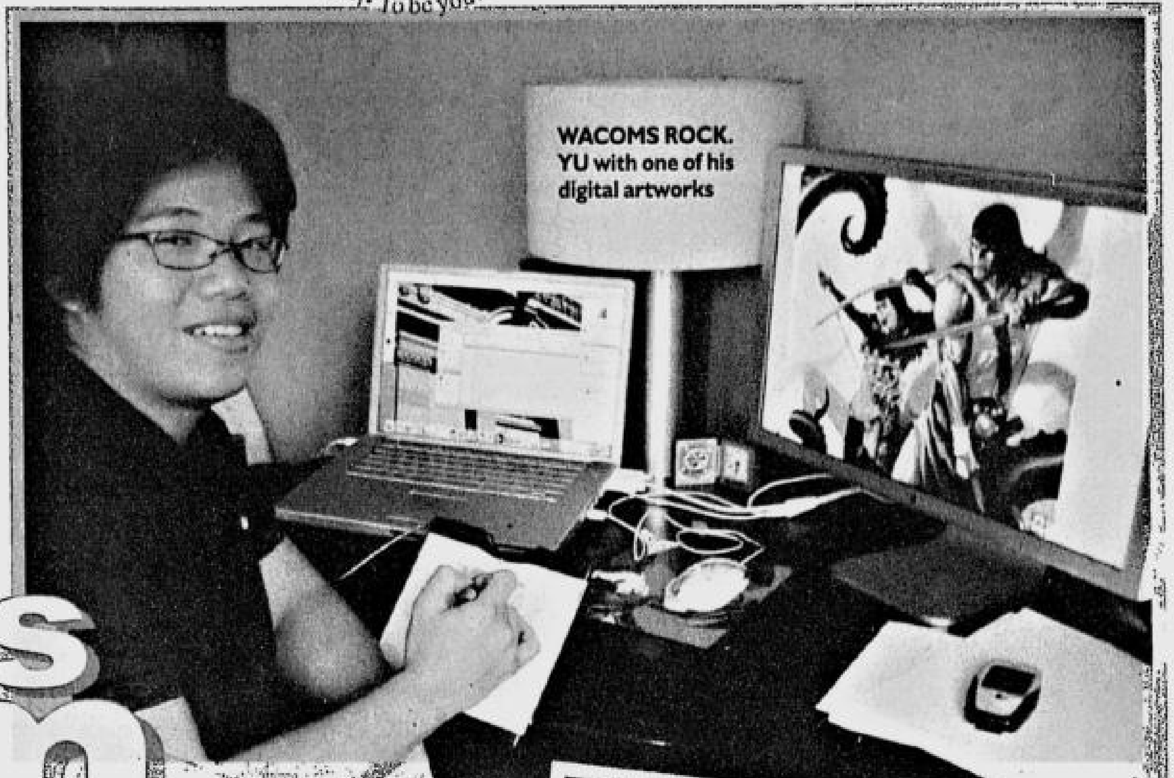
Catch Krook & J.O.L.O. Live in Concert at CLUB V, Oct. 22, 2004 at 9:00 pm. Stay tuned to Magic 89.9 for more details!

UNIVERSAL RECORDS
MAGIC 89.9
Information Gateway
making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

YU'S masterpieces have been translated into different languages. Here's a Spanish copy of "Birthright."



A doodler's dream day job



WACOMS ROCK. YU with one of his digital artworks

From page D1

he says. "I didn't mind the stories until a few years later. And then it was like, 'Wow, these are good stories!'"

His break with Marvel happened seven years ago when X-Men/X-Factor comic book genius Whilce Portacio came to town.

"He set up his own studio and he wanted to have like, 10 guys doing comics for him, and I was one of the guys selected. He got me my first gig, Wolverine, and that started my career."

Yu illustrated about 20 Wolverine comic books, as well as some X-Men on the side. Then DC Comics gave him a call.

"I got a better offer from DC, and it was to make my own comics, so that was interesting for me," he says.

Of course, there's that deal that had to do with a certain caped superhero that's three quarters of a century old. "They asked me if I wanted to do Superman with Mark Waide. That was one opportunity I wasn't going to pass up!"

Taking the high road

Having worked for Marvel and DC, Yu had to frequent the US, which also meant attending comic book conventions. He only has fond memories of these events.

"I've met hundreds of artists, and it's so nice to meet people you look up to, and they actually know your work!" he says. "It's one of the rewards of being an artist!"

While Yu started mimicking other comic illustrations in the beginning, he slowly found his own style and came up with his own material later. He's inspired by graphic novels like "The Watchman" and "Sandman," and has nothing but praises for artists like Portacio, Travis Charest, Jim Lee and Mike Mignola.

No doubt his wife, Yai, also doubles as his muse. "Movies also inspire me," he shares, gesturing toward a wall full of posters like "The Truman Show" and "Chasing Amy." With so many sources of inspiration, it's a no-brainer that Yu would eventually put out his own comic book series, "High Roads."

Known as "creator-owned" comics (that is, the heroes are created by the artists themselves as opposed to Batman and Superman who've been around for ages), Yu's "High Roads," which was written by Scott Lobdell, is like "Indiana Jones, but with midgets," he says, laughing. "It's a period piece, set in World War II, and there are these bunch of guys on adventures looking for treasure."

These and the "Birthright" series are Yu's favorite works.

For Yu, the job simply rocks. "You're doing something you love and you're getting paid for it. And it allows you to do a lot of stuff in between. It allows you to be flexible. You can take a break any time you want, as long as you meet the deadline."

The last one is something he sometimes has to struggle with. "It sucks if you don't have discipline, and I'm not really blessed with self-control. That's the only thing that's bad about it," he says.

Yu's wife agrees. "We watch movies maybe twice a week, and he downloaded the entire 'Angels and Demons' [by Dan Brown] book on the Internet, so *balak niya atang pagtyagaan yon*," Yai shares.

The future looks bright

Right now, Yu's working on a "Batman and Danger Girl" book.

"It's a one-shot, 44-page deal. It's just one book, like a crossover between the two heroes," he says. After dealing with the caped crusader, he's planning to start on yet another creator-owned piece.

"I'm working with Andy Diggel, and we're coming up with a comic book that's like animé, but not animé," he explains. "*Basta*! They don't have big eyes."

A SKETCH of Danger Girl for the " Batman and Danger Girl" comic book

When asked about the Pinoy comic scene, Yu shares, "Wakasan and Liwayway aren't as strong as before, but they're doing great. We have a lot of great artists, but they can't break into the American mainstream scene—for now. They're greatly influenced by the American style of illustrating, so they kind of lose their identity."

Yu's not giving up, though. He's quite happy that random comic workshops are being held by Western artists, and since he got his big break from that, he's hoping many others will follow soon.

"I'd be fine doing comics for a long, long time. And there's still a lot of room to grow, to do digital paintings and stuff," he says. "And I can still see myself growing as an artist and doing better works, doing stuff outside comics. But I really don't mind doing comics for a long, long time."

E-mail the author at mvreyes@inquirer.com.ph

HERSHEY'S
new ○ hershey's chocolate ○ marshmallow ○ graham crackers ○ new ○ hershey's chocolate ○ marshmallow ○ graham crackers ○ new ○ hershey's chocolate ○ marshmallow ○ graham crackers
SO GOOD, YOU'LL WANT
new HERSHEY'S S'mores
Also available at DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES

Elbert Or is at the top of the comic book world. And he's only 20

For this young artist, it's now or never

By Vanessa Arellano Doctor
2bU! Correspondent

COMIC creators are often dismissed, especially the younger ones who are just breaking into the industry. Adults in particular are not too keen on seeing their kids take the road of comic art, brushing it aside as a mere hobby, not a serious profession.

Elbert Or, editor in chief of Nautilus Comics and creator of comic books such as "Cast" (as editor), "Cherry Blossom High" (as writer), "Two Color Truth Theatre" (his brainchild) and "Grafic 2003," met the challenge.

Now, with the critically acclaimed "Siglo: Freedom" and "Siglo: Passion" and the full-color "Two Color Truth" set to be released, he's gearing up to do more. And he's only 20.

Have you always known you wanted to be a comic-book creator?

When I was younger, I thought I'd wanted to be teacher, or something else besides being an artist. But then, I was already into drawing for school projects, and some of my classmates would even pay me to make illustrations for them. One day, a friend gave me a copy of Alan Moore's "From Hell," a comic book about Jack the Ripper, for research. It was one of those thin copies that are now very rare: When I read it, I suddenly realized that there's so much that can be done and said through comics, not just the funny stuff.

So you made a sort of career out of it?

The money was a perk. Would you believe, I only got to read about "Spider-Man" and all those other big comic book characters in high school? Before that, I was reading Pinoy *komiks* like "Batu Batuta" and "Horoscope," the kinds you buy from newsstands, because the more popular comic books were too expensive. So what I did was pool the money I got from drawing for other people to be able to buy the pricey ones.

The first outside exposure I had was when a company hired me to illustrate posters for clinics. I was 16 years old then. Though I wasn't able to collect payment for that, it was then that I saw the earning potential. That contrary to what many people think, it's not a penny racket. So I began to make my own comic books.

What was the first one you made professionally?

It was an eight-page ashcan comic book titled "Magellan Was Not Killed By Lapu-Lapu." It started out as a project in school; then I made a number of copies and sent them out to companies, hoping for a job. A teacher from Cebu decided to take it and translate it into Cebuano to be used as a visual aid in his classes. I earned a modest five digits for that.

Then I came out with "Grafic 2003," with a couple of other students from Ateneo. I'd like to say that sold fairly well. Later, I created "Two Color Truth Theatre," which was originally for my college thesis. It began gaining fans because I printed a few copies to show to friends and strangers for feedback. The next thing I knew, people were asking for more.

Is it difficult to get your work out there?

Finance-wise, not so much; because the first ones I made were all just photocopied and stapled together. It was a bit embarrassing, but at the same time fulfilling. You won't usually sell, especially if you're an independent creator, because you'd be competing with bigger names and full-color versions.

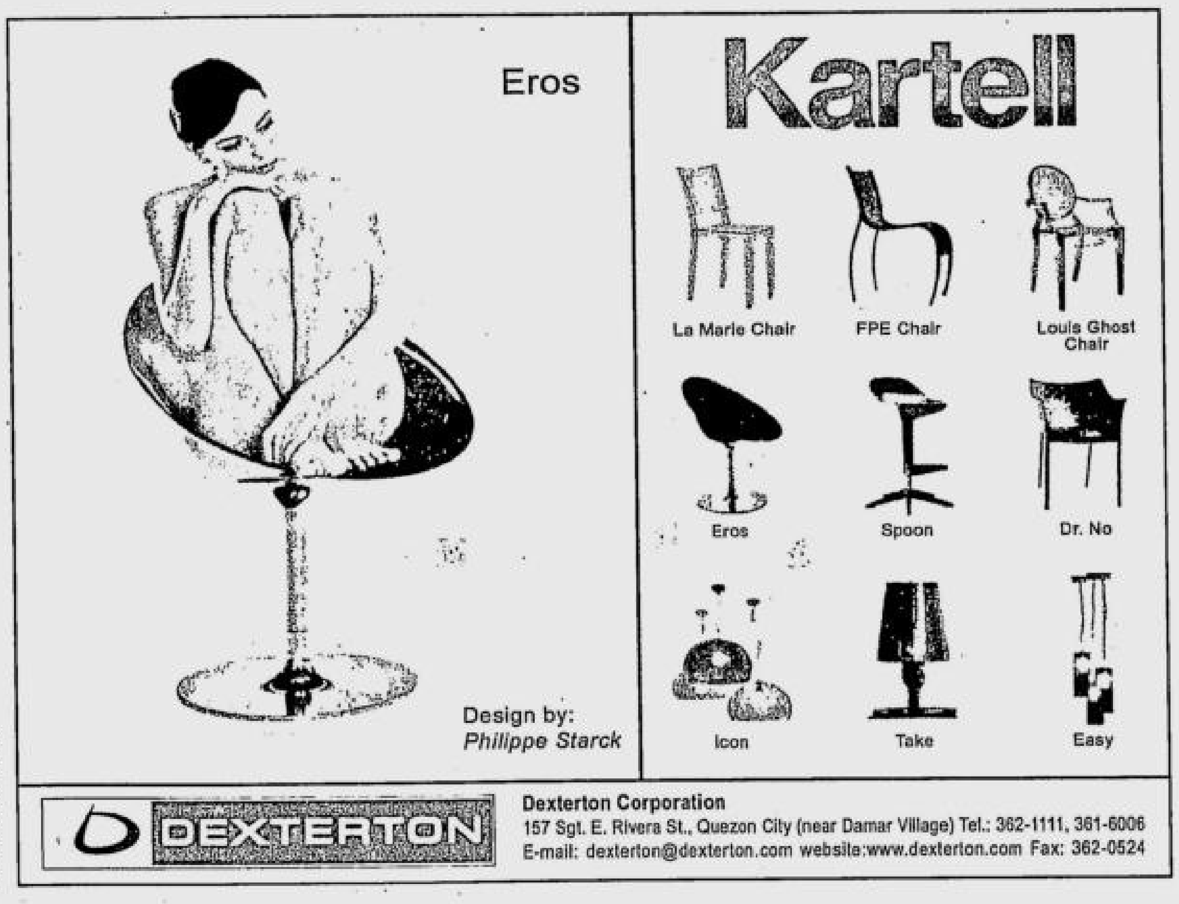
My first comics were in black and white. As a result, I had to sell my work aggressively and market my work at whatever occasion, to let people know that I have something that's worth reading. I'm a hard sell, that's why I was lucky to break even, and sometimes even see profits.

Also, I try to experiment with different ways to get my work noticed. An example is what I called the "24-hour Comic Book Project," which I literally started and finished in 24 hours. I burned it on a CD, which was cheaper than having it printed, and tried selling it. I even put it up on a Website. That wasn't one of very good ones I did, though; you can really notice that I did not get a wink of sleep when I made it. Haha! It was an exercise in spontaneity, but it created a buzz.

You're one of the artists featured in "Siglo: Freedom." How did you bag that gig?

Dean Alfar, the editor of "Siglo: Freedom,"

FOR THIS YOUNG D4



Eros

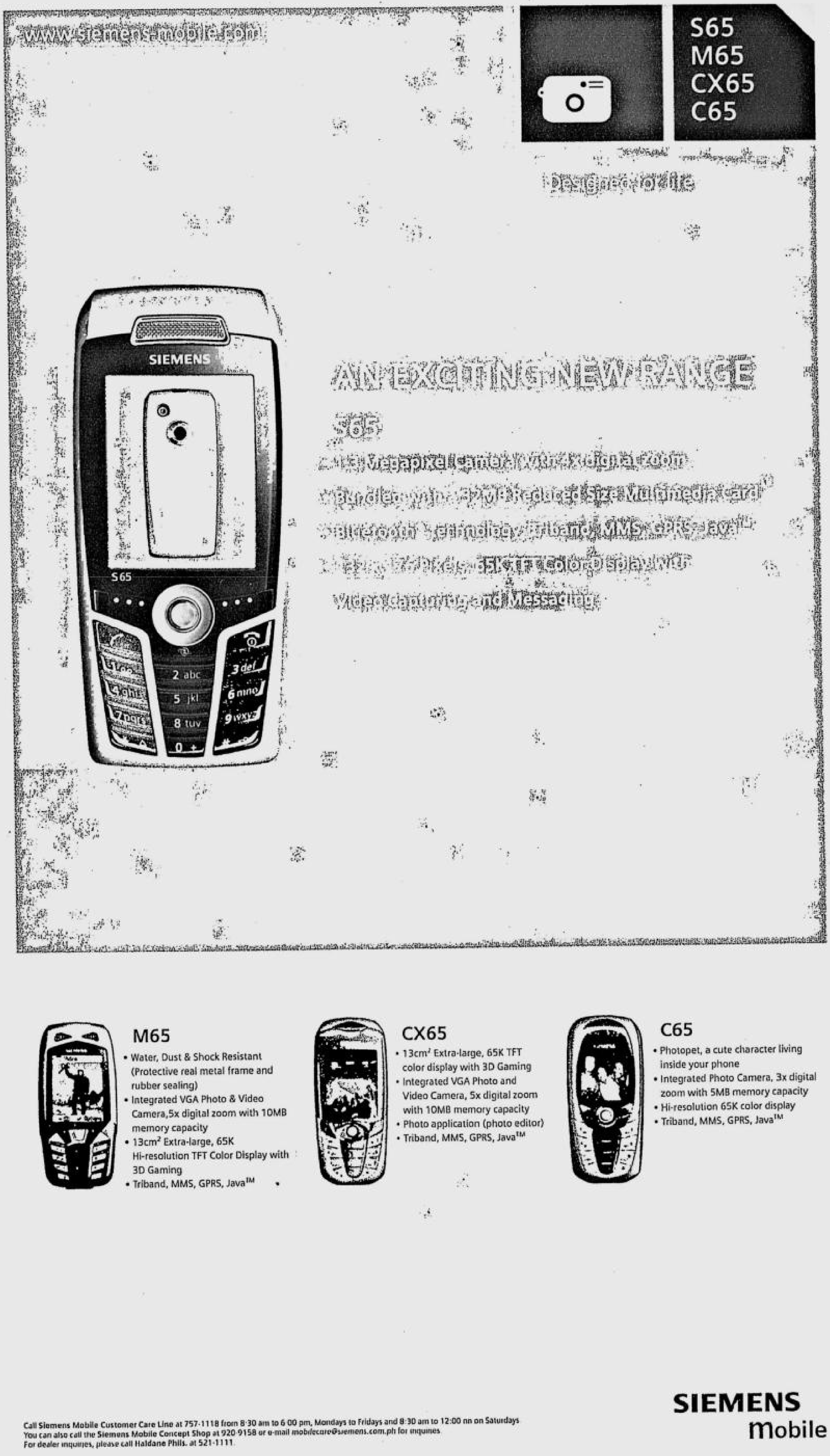
Design by:
Philippe Starck

Kartell

La Marie Chair
FPE Chair
Louis Ghost Chair
Eros
Spoon
Dr. No
Icon
Take
Easy

DEXTERTON

Dexterton Corporation
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St., Quezon City (near Damar Village) Tel.: 362-1111, 361-6006
E-mail: dexterton@dexterton.com website:www.dexterton.com Fax: 362-0524



www.siemens-mobile.com

S65
M65
CX65
C65

Designed for life

AN EXCITING NEW RANGE

S65
1.3 Megapixel camera with 4x digital zoom
Bundled with 32MB Reduced Size Multimedia card
Bluetooth technology, Triband, MMS, GPRS, Java™
132 x 176 Pixels 65K TFT Color Display with
Video capturing and Messaging

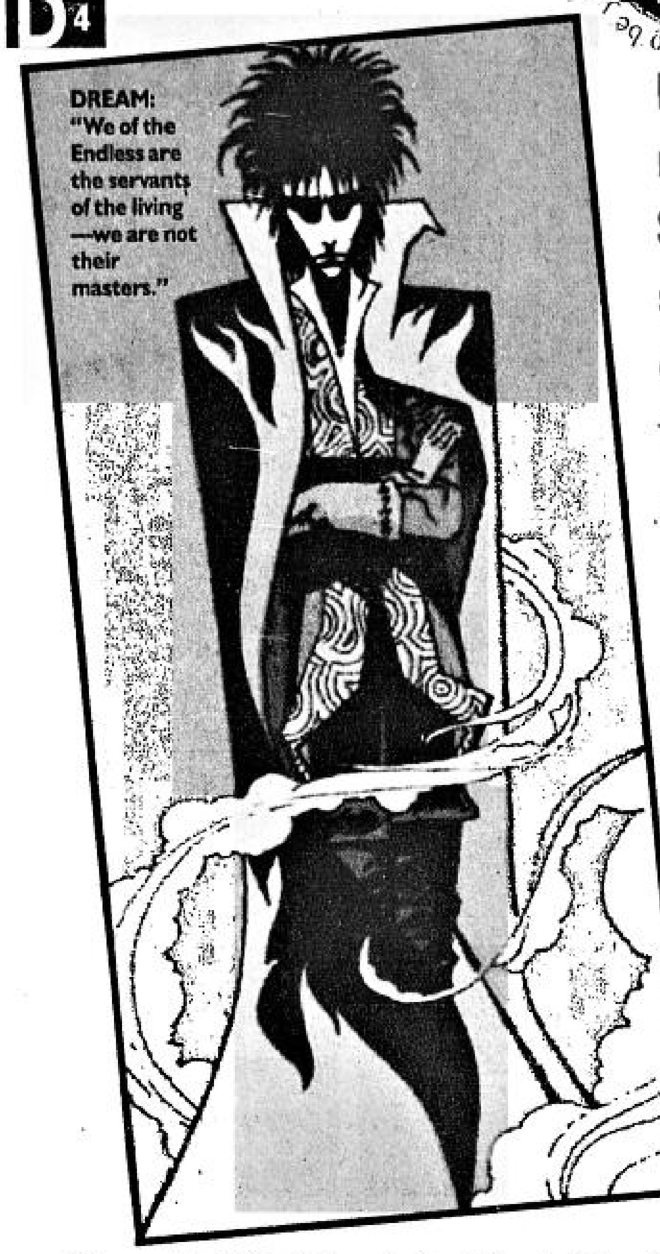
M65
- Water, Dust & Shock Resistant (Protective real metal frame and rubber sealing)
- Integrated VGA Photo & Video Camera,5x digital zoom with 10MB memory capacity
- 13cm² Extra-large, 65K Hi-resolution TFT Color Display with 3D Gaming
- Triband, MMS, GPRS, Java™

CX65
- 13cm² Extra-large, 65K TFT color display with 3D Gaming
- Integrated VGA Photo and Video Camera, 5x digital zoom with 10MB memory capacity
- Photo application (photo editor)
- Triband, MMS, GPRS, Java™

C65
- Photopet, a cute character living inside your phone
- Integrated Photo Camera, 3x digital zoom with 5MB memory capacity
- Hi-resolution 65K color display
- Triband, MMS, GPRS, Java™

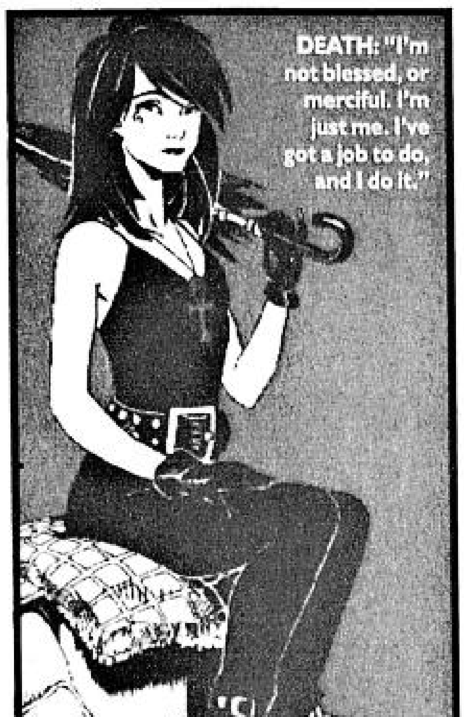
Call Siemens Mobile Customer Care Line at 757-1118 from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm, Mondays to Fridays and 8:30 am to 12:00 nn on Saturdays
You can also call the Siemens Mobile Concept Shop at 920-9158 or e-mail mobilecare@siemens.com.ph for inquiries
For dealer inquiries, please call Haldane Phils. at 521-1111

SIEMENS
mobile

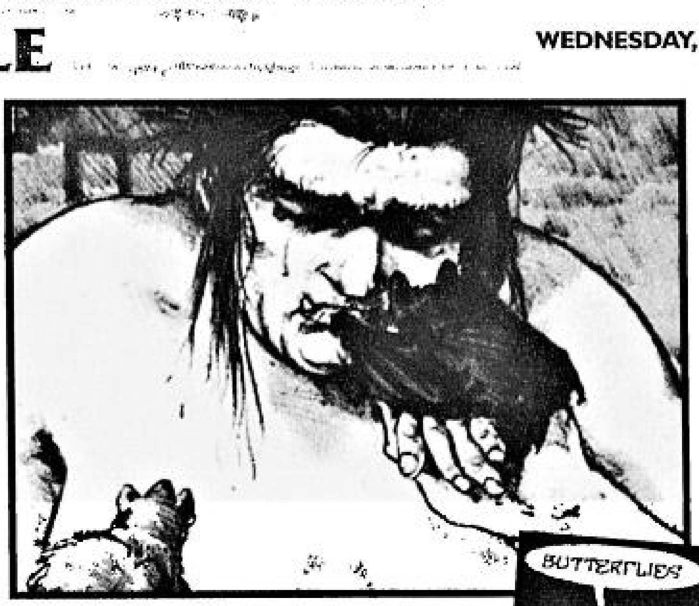


DREAM: "We of the Endless are the servants of the living —we are not their masters."

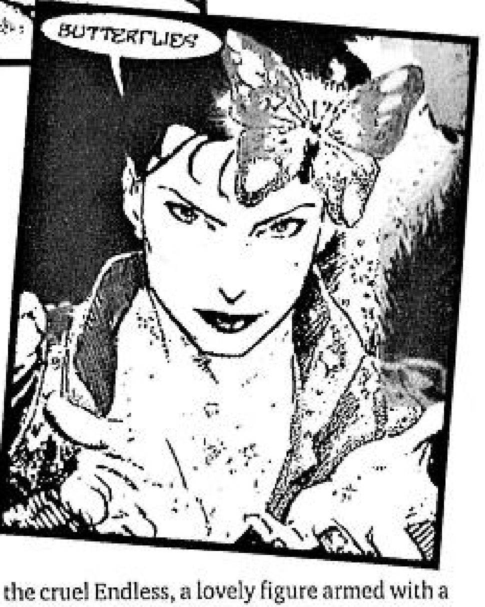
Neil Gaiman created a new mythology with the Sandman comic book series, about seven entities in charge of the living, the dreaming and the dead



DEATH: "I'm not blessed, or merciful. I'm just me. I've got a job to do, and I do it."



DESIRE (below): "Where I touch, things want and need and love—drawn to their objects of desire like butterflies to a candle flame."
Despair (left): "Moths. You mean moths."
Desire: "Butterflies. They're yours now, sister."
Death: "Yes."



SEVEN dreamy siblings

By Irene Andrea C. Perez

COMIC books glorify the sub-human—all of 'em gods and goddesses, mutated geeks-turned-superheroes, aliens, humans with animal abilities. There are the cute and fluffy, the hardcore angry, the ones with laser beams and annoying sidekicks. And there are the Endless.

Neil Gaiman created a new mythology through the "Sandman" comic book series (DC/Vertigo collection of 75 issues from "Sleep of the Just," 1989 to "The Tempest," 1996) revolving around the Endless, seven entities in charge of the living, dreaming and the dead.

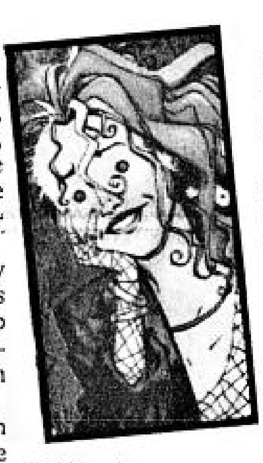
The enchanted storyline—coupled with striking illustrations by, among others, Mike Dringenberg, Malcolm Jones III, Jill Thompson, Vince Locke and Sam Kieth—brings readers to the cavern beneath the world, to limbo, hell, faerie land and back.

Gaiman best sums up the Endless in his introduction to "Brief Lives":

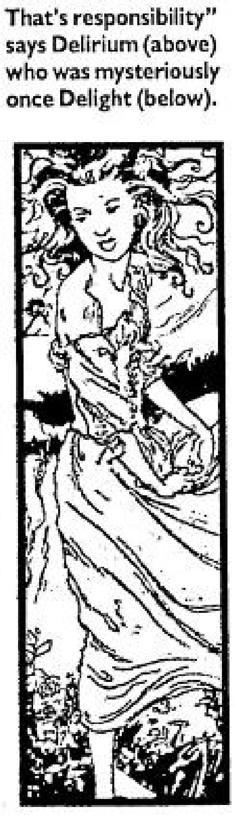
"What you need to know before you start: There are seven beings that aren't gods, who existed before humanity dreamed of gods and will exist after the last god is dead. They are called the Endless. They are embodiments of (in order of age) Destiny, Death, Dream, Destruction, Desire, Despair and Delirium. Approximately 300 years ago, Destruction abandoned his realm. That's all you need."

The Endless have their own kingdom called realms. They are connected to each other through their galleries, they carry a sigil and most of them have incredible mood swings.

They could be funny and scary at the same time. Some are downright smart and others are perennially lost. The Endless have no known parents—they were not born; but they are as real as the gunky stuff inside people's eyes. They embody us.



"OUR existence deforms the universe. That's responsibility" says Delirium (above) who was mysteriously once Delight (below).



Destiny

Would respond if called: Potmos
Sigil: Book

"Destiny is also the tallest of the Endless, to mortal eyes... Destiny smells of dust and libraries of night."

The eldest of the brood, Destiny is the more responsible and reasonable Endless. He is believed to be blind and his face is hardly visible through his hooded cloak. It is said that he doesn't leave footprints or cast a shadow.

His realm is a garden dotted with paths and mazes. It also houses great statues of the Endless that are believed to mirror their current state. It is in this realm that the Endless' twice-in-300-years family reunion happens.

Death

Would respond if called: Teleute
Sigil: Ankh

"[Morpheus] heard long ago, in a dream, that one day in every century, Death takes on mortal flesh, better to comprehend what the lives she takes must feel like, to taste the bitter tang of mortality: that is the price she must pay for being the divider of the living from all that has gone before, all that must come after."

Next to the Dream King, Death is the most popular Endless. The ultimate Goth chic, she is frequently in black jeans and top. She sports undereye curlicue/s and wears her sigil, an ankh pendant around her neck.

She is Dream's confidant.

Gaiman took the liberty to break away from the macabre cliché in personifying Death as a young, down-to-earth, sensitive woman. She is an effective irony, a cheerful Death.

Her realm was never seen in the collection save for a short shot of her house on "Sandman Special, Song of Orpheus." Death keeps a floppy hat collection and two goldfish, Slim and Wandsworth.

"Death's Day," the working title for a movie based on the graphic novel "Death: The High Cost of Living," to be produced by Warner Bros. Pictures, is still under negotiation.

Dream

Would respond if called: Oneiros
Sigil: Helmet

"Of all the Endless, save perhaps Destiny, he is the most conscious of his responsibilities, the most meticulous in their execution. Dream casts a human shadow, when it occurs to him to do so."

Dream is the Sandman. He is frequently referred to as Morpheus, King of Dreams, Prince of Stories, The Oneiromancer, Lord of the Sleeping Marches, Lord Shaper, The Dreamweaver and the Sultan of Sleep, among other titles.

Tall, pale and every inch a gentleman, Dream is believed to have been patterned after Gaiman, although he's more of The Cure's Robert Smith knockoff.

Another Endless with a penchant for black, Dream's accessory of choice is a helmet, also his sigil. He resides in a castle of a realm tended by an odd caboodle of helpers and servants.

Morpheus has undertones of a Greek tragic hero. He's partly self-absorbed and depressed, like an older brother in a pathetic search for understanding.

Dream is often lovesick and forlorn, but charming just the same. He's known for throwing tantrums, and when he does, "everybody gets dreams fulla existential angst and wakes up feeling like hell," as his servant Mervyn Pumpkinhead would say.

Everyone loves Dream because, well, he's not your perfect hero. And he's hot in his pallid kind of way.

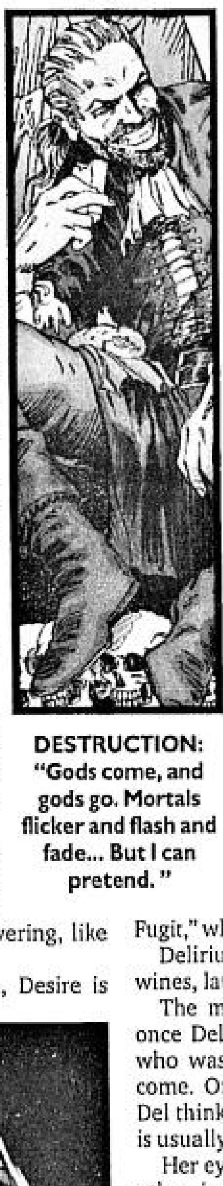
Destruction

Would respond if called: Olethros
Sigil: Sword

Destruction is the self-proclaimed black sheep of the Endless family and the least visible in the series. He left his realm and took on a life as a common man with only his dog, Barnabas, as companion.

His sigil is blank in the galleries of the other Endless. Destruction refused power over life, believing that anyone is capable of living without the Endless' meddling and everything will go on with or without them.

Destruction respects life and lives on as a builder, quite an irony for someone supposed to be in charge of all sorts of damages.



DESTRUCTION: "Gods come, and gods go. Mortals flicker and flash and fade... But I can pretend."

Desire

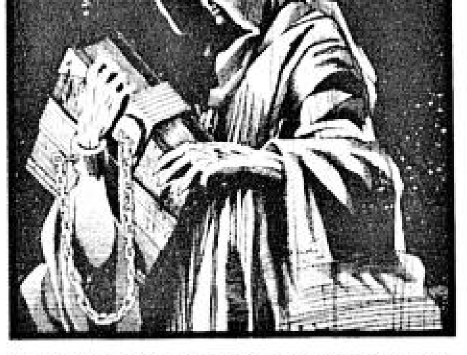
Would respond if called: Epithumia
Sigil: Heart

Desire is the androgynous Endless. Whether a he or she, Desire makes us want something, everything—more often painfully without our consent.

She is of the scent of summer peaches; casts "double shadows: one black and sharp-edged, the other translucent and forever wavering, like heat haze."

Largely described as knife-like, Desire is the cruel Endless, a lovely figure armed with a cigarette and a ready smile.

She resides in the Threshold, a massive statue that takes her shape. Desire is Despair's twin.



"THE GARDEN of Destiny. You would know it if you saw it. After all, you will wander it until you die. Or beyond. For the paths are long, and even in death there is not ending to them."

Despair

Would respond if called: Aponoia
Sigil: Ring with a hook

Scattered around Despair's foggy realm are mirrors, where scenes of misery, like neverending soap-opera sequences, are seen.

She is plump, her hair is unruly and thick, and her skin is cold and grey like her eyes. It has been said that while she herself has no smell, her shadow smells of snake skin.

Despair is always naked. She wears her sigil, a ring with a hook, and occasionally cuts her skin. She is the quiet Endless.

From time to time, Despair works with her twin, Desire—because to long, want, crave, covet is to end up with despair.

Delirium

Would respond if called: Mania
Sigil: Chaotic pattern

Have you ever been so dizzyingly confused that you see colors bursting out from all directions? When that happens, the youngest Endless is probably with you.

Delirium (a personal favorite) is petite, childlike and scatterbrained. She has a thing for colors as evident in her hair and clothes. Her realm is a kaleidoscope of hues, shapes and objects. It has a sundial inscribed with "Tempus Frangit" ("Time breaks," a Latin pun on "Tempus Fugit," which means "Time flies.")

Delirium is said to smell of "sweat, sour wines, late nights and leather."

The mystery of Delirium is that she was once Delight, a charming, collected Endless who was the opposite of what she has become. On occasion, a struggle ensues when Del thinks straight and acts composed, which is usually triggered by wrath.

Her eyes are mismatched: one is green, the other is blue. As to what she sees through them or how she departed from being Delight, no one knows except her ("Do you know why I stopped being Delight, my brother [Destiny]? I do. There are things not in your book. There are paths outside this garden.)

And Gaiman, of course.

Sources: The Sandman Collected Library books
http://members.shaw.ca/jack-laynedesign/sandman/sandman.html
www.holycow.com/dreaming
E-mail the author at irene_andrea_perez@yahoo.com

For this young artist, it's now or never

was putting together the concept for the anthology, and I believe he recalled reading one of my earlier works, probably "Grafic 2003," and invited me to join them. I said yes, of course. That time, Jamie Bautista, also a gifted comic book creator, was trying to set up Nautilus Comics and was looking for material. I introduced them to each other and, from there, "Siglo: Freedom" came to be.

We're now preparing for "Siglo: Passion," which will be out in a few months; and unlike "Freedom," it will be in full color. I'll be illustrating a story by Cyan Abad, set in the '90s in Baguio.

Most of your stories are on young adults. Do you see yourself moving on to more mature themes in the future?

"Two Color Truth" was not particularly intended to target the younger readers. I originally created it for adults who wanted to backtrack to the time of their youth. But generally, I believe I am most fit to tackle such themes, as they are what I can connect with.

With regard to hindsight, you can say I have 20-20 vision, because I can easily relate to my characters and am concerned with the same issues they are facing. Most of the other comic books geared toward the younger crowd are too wholesome, I believe. They don't tackle the subjects that are truly dogging the youth of today, such as parental divorce, sex and teen suicide. These things actually happen! And I'd like to create a venue where such problems are discussed without appearing gratuitous and exploitative.

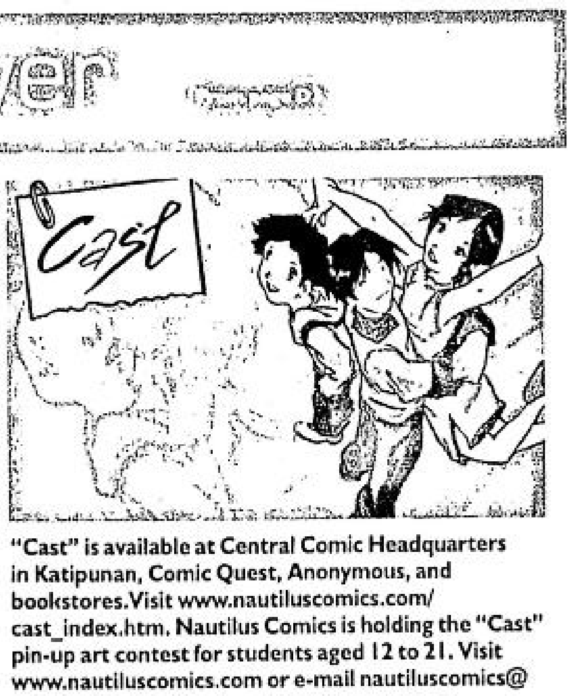
How are you dealing with the attention you're getting right now?

I've always wanted to be a superstar (laughs). But when people started approaching me at the mall, I felt awkward. I don't think I have enough on my back to be that proud of my work. I still feel that my best is yet to come, and I have a lot more to learn.

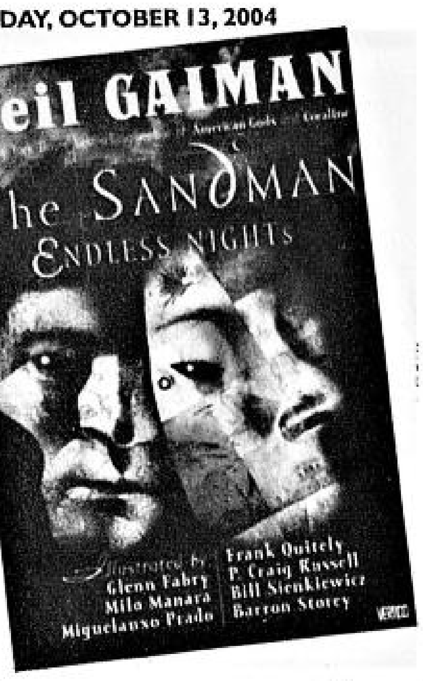
One thing that's great about being in such a small industry is that you're all friends and you get to compare works. There's no senior-versus-novice issue with them. Everyone is there to help anyone in all ways possible. With fame, I just make sure it doesn't go to my head. There are some creators who, after having sold a couple of copies, develop this complex.

However, I believe that if you let popularity get to you, you tend to become complacent and you stop trying to improve. Perhaps why I still have my feet on the ground is because I am only too eager to jump into other things and do something else, instead of dwelling on short-term fame.

Elbert's work has also appeared in Anvil Publishing's "Ang Parusa ng Duwende," which was rewritten from Severino Reyes' "Ang Mga Kuwento ni Lola Basyang," by Christine S. Belen. He is also a freelance writer, graphic designer and creative consultant for various companies.



"Cast" is available at Central Comic Headquarters in Katipunan, Comic Quest, Anonymous, and bookstores. Visit www.nautiluscomics.com/cast_index.htm. Nautilus Comics is holding the "Cast" pin-up art contest for students aged 12 to 21. Visit www.nautiluscomics.com or e-mail nautiluscomics@gmail.com. Deadline for submission is Oct. 29.



'Endless Nights' is the latest installment in Neil Gaiman's trailblazing 'Sandman' series of comic books

Graphic reveries

"The Sandman: Endless Nights"
Words by Neil Gaiman; art Glenn Fabry, Milo Manara, Miguelanxo Prado, Frank Quitely, P. Craig Russell, Bill Sienkiewicz, Barron Storey and Dave McKean
Published by Vertigo/DC Comics

By Sam Marcelo
Contributor

THERE is a certain embarrassment when you say you read comic books. A stigma clings to this medium like a frozen booger. People seem to think that comic books are for the barely literate who need pictures to understand what they're reading (some will even contest the use of the verb "read").

But Neil Gaiman's "The Sandman" has catapulted comic books to a respectable form of telling stories. The series has been critically acclaimed and has garnered several awards for its literary value.

Some will use the euphemism "graphic novel" when talking about his work. Well, don't try to make a potato seem more glamorous by calling it a po-tah-to. "Sandman" is a comic book, albeit one with more brains than the others out there.

For the uninitiated, "Sandman"'s plot revolves around Dream and his six siblings, collectively called the Endless. In order, they are Destiny, Death, Dream, Destruction, Despair, Desire and Delirium. Just as you are (insert your name here), Dream is Dream. He is not a god or a spirit, he is Dream.

The Sandman multiverse is immense. It draws from different mythologies, weaving each one into the other, creating a story with incredible possibilities. It is only in this realm that you will see Lucifer, Odin, Barbie and Ken (among others) moving in the same overarching plot. The series ended in 1996, much to the dismay of the followers of the story of the King of Stories.

No single storyline

Gaiman revisits Dream and his family in the latest "Sandman" installment called "Endless Nights." It is made up of seven individual stories—one for each of the Endless.

Gaiman gives you the freedom to explore the book at your own pace. You can start at the beginning and read it all the way through in one sitting, or jump around from one place to the next whenever you have the time. The plots do not converge to form a single storyline, so don't expect everything to come together neatly by the time you finish it.

First-timers and rabid fans will be able to appreciate the depth of Gaiman's repertoire. The stories are told in different narrative and visual styles. The illustrators who work with Gaiman do an incredible job of visualizing his ideas.

GRAPHIC/ D7

GUYITO WILD HUNT
REWARDS

The wild chase is on for Inquirer's Guyito!

Look for the specially-marked Guyito coupon in the pages of Inquirer. Cut out, put your name, address and signature. Drop at designated drop boxes for a shot at your most wanted rewards!

Join the fun as Inquirer celebrates 19 exciting years of giving Filipinos no less than balanced news and fearless views.

Hunt from September 27 to December 14, 2004!

See posters and print ads for more details.

Per DTI Permit No. 2147, Series of 2004.

FUJIFILM
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
digital exchange

All products are available at Digital Exchange Glorietta 3

NEW!
Pizza Hut
Cream Cheese Stuffed crust
Roast Beef Pizza

Roast beef slices with our special garlic steak sauce on a Cream Cheese Stuffed Crust Pizza

Feast for 2
or more

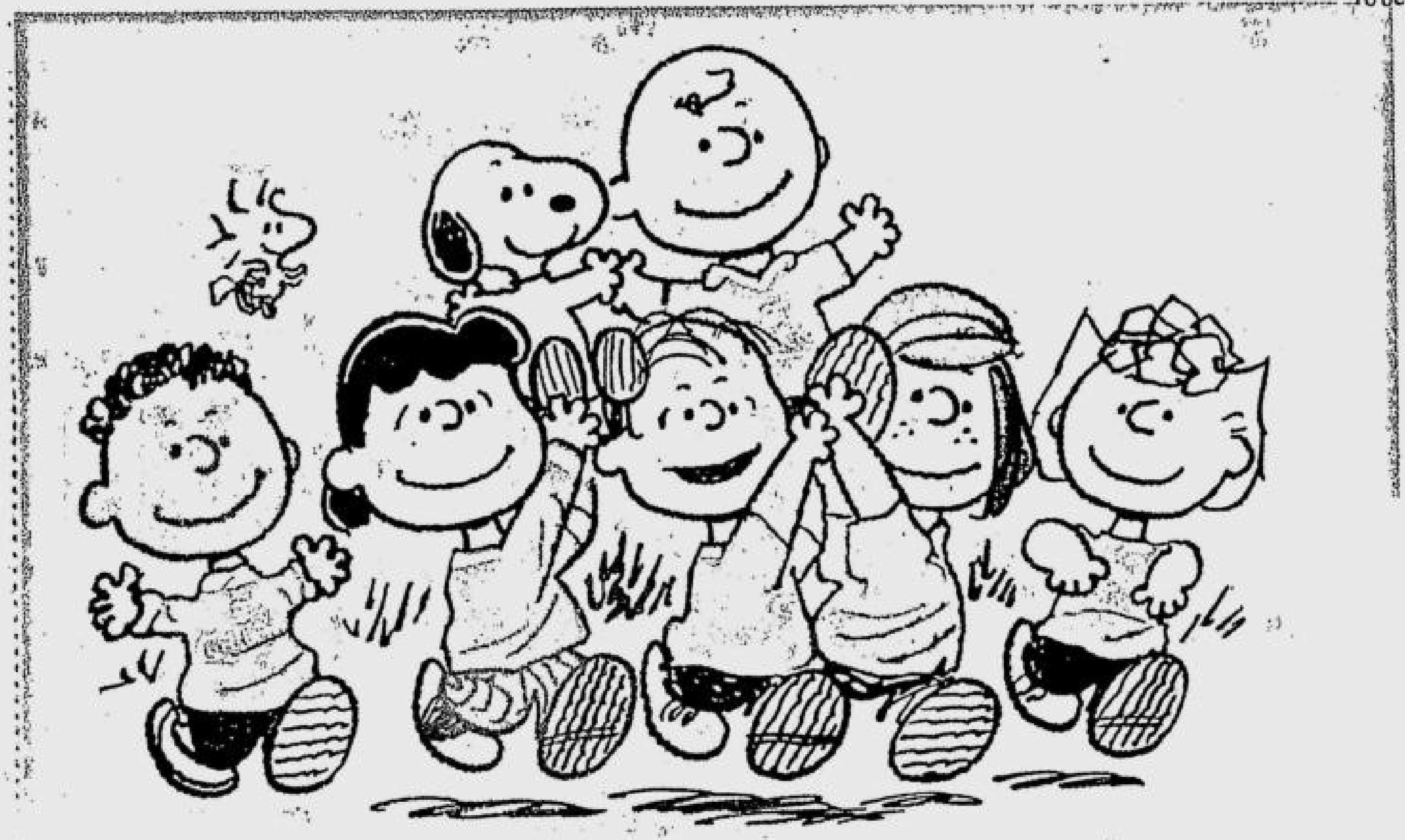
- Regular Roast Beef Cream Cheese Stuffed Crust Pizza
- 2 Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 2 Glasses of NESTEA Iced Tea

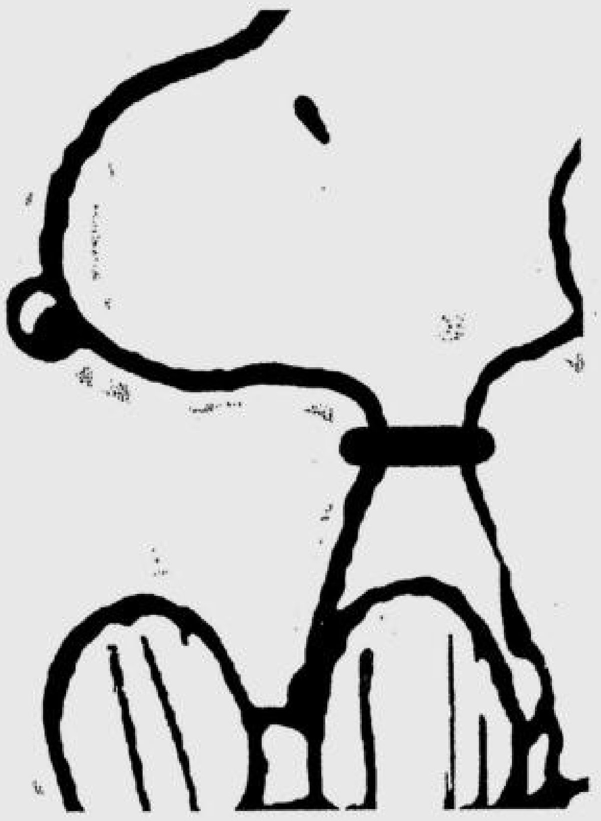
For just
₱299
Save ₱ 125!

Visc the nearest Pizza Hut restaurant. Available for dine in. Price subject to 10% service charge and local tax. Promo runs from October 5 to November 22, 2004.

Per DTI-NCR permit no. 4708 series of 2004

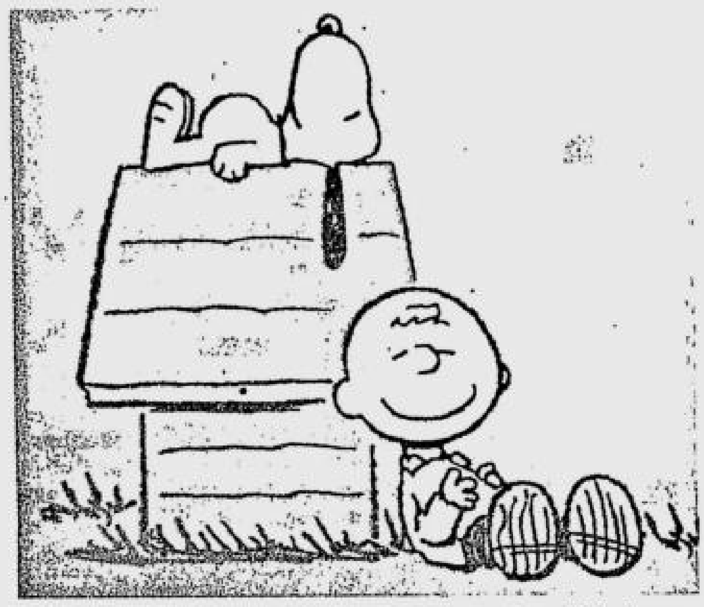
Pizza Hut





'Peanuts,' anyone?

Charles Schulz's comic strip speaks of everything wise, wonderful and bittersweet about real life



CHARLIE Brown, Snoopy and their gang became the unlikely heroes of many young people in the changing landscape of the postwar years.

By Catherine Young
2bU! Correspondent

DEEP in the raucous world of comic strips, amid episodes of spandex-covered superheroes that spoke of flamboyant derring-do, there emerged stories about a boy, his dog and his friends.

It was a strip that told another truth—about friendships and deep feelings of depression. On Oct. 2, 1950, Charles Schulz's "Peanuts" was introduced to the world.

It was a transitional time in mid-20th century America, with postwar celebration about to give way to cultural alienation.

For Schulz—nicknamed "Sparky" after the horse in "Barney Google"—the vaudeville and the melodrama that were the main themes of the decade served to heighten his feelings of alienation from society. He was 20 years old when his mother died of colon cancer. Three days later, he went off to war as a private. This sudden separation from his family and his home gave him a sense of melancholy that would follow him until adulthood.

As a child, Schulz's kindergarten art teacher once told him he was going to be an artist. Little did she know that her pupil would end up becoming one of the most famous comic strip creators of all time.

Deep and wise

Schulz's first comic strip, "Lil Folks," was renamed "Peanuts," a title he never liked but which stuck to the hearts and minds of the millions of fans of Charlie Brown and Snoopy, the world's most famous beagle. The "Peanuts" characters were all young but had the depth and wisdom that adults have—or should.

Charlie Brown, Peppermint Patty, Lucy, Linus, Schroeder and of course, Snoopy and Woodstock, were all described in the beginning as "funny-looking." But it was this group of kids that would eventually become the unlikely heroes of many postwar youth.

Like them, Schulz felt alienated in his own country, and confessed through his comic strip that he did not feel the way he was supposed to. With his characters, he gave the comic world real lives with real psyches that the audience could actually relate to.

Novelist Umberto Eco would eventually note how Sculz's characters used simple language that, in many ways, questioned the meaning of life. Indeed, Schulz was once labeled the youngest existentialist. He wrote plain words for his characters' thoughts, but these words had depth, meaning and resonance.

At the same time, they also spread the message that growing up had its benefits. Schulz's alter ego Charlie Brown, the boy who never succeeded in baseball, still kept trying despite his inferiority complex. And his friends were always there to give him succinct advice.

"I feel depressed," Charlie Brown once said. "What can I do about it?" "Snap out of it," Lucy replied.

Friends forever

Perhaps the greatest lesson from "Peanuts" is knowing that friendship is the greatest of human relationships and must, therefore, always be given time for.

For Charlie Brown, his bat may not make contact with the baseball, but as long as he still had his friends, all was well. It was this mentality that enabled the characters to maintain their vibrance and sense of happiness, which was almost reminiscent of Antoine de St. Exupery's "The Little Prince."

David Michaelis, who is set to come out with Schulz's biography next year, was not exaggerating with his estimation of Schulz. This one-of-a-kind artist, he said, "distilled human emotion to its essence." Amen.

E-mail the author at cathy_young1@yahoo.com

The Tao of Calvin and Hobbes

Paul Gauguin asked, "Whence do we come? What are we? Where are we going?"

Well, I don't know about anyone else, but I came from my room, I'm a kid with big plans, and I'm going outside. See ya later!... Say, who the heck is Paul Gauguin anyway?

—Calvin, The Tenth Anniversary Book by Bill Waterson

By Danicar Mariano
2bU! Correspondent

COMIC books have always dealt with the representation of alter egos. If the cartoonist is really good, the alter egos which are part of his or her personality become the voice in our heads as well.

This is very much the case with the obnoxiously endearing Calvin and his wise-cracking tiger Hobbes. After reading the strip for a while, we get to imagine what Calvin would do or say. Calvin is a meaner, weirder and also a more philosophical Dennis the Menace. He builds snowmen which he pretends will get ran over by his dad's car, he dresses up as a superhero ("Stupendous Man") to cheat on exams, he constantly annoys his schoolmate Sussie by telling her his ham sandwich is actually made of disgusting innards.

Calvin is the first comic character to use the word "boogers." Yes, it's that radical. In the beginning, readers wrote to Waterson and his newspaper to complain about the strip's contents. One particularly provocative strip showed Calvin fantasizing about flying a military aircraft and blowing up his school.

Readers also complained about Calvin's parents, who are constantly portrayed as regretting not choosing a dog over Calvin. (With a kid like that, who could blame them?)

Sophisticated and profound

Nonetheless, majority have rewarded Calvin and Hobbes for telling it as it is, and for trying to portray the point of view of a 6-year-old through a more sophisticated and profound adult lens.

Calvin and Hobbes also present the troubles of having a kid—especially one like Calvin who is basically like any other 6-year-old, focused only on his own needs and desires and clueless about such a thing as delayed gratification.

This kid just happens to have constant delusions of living off in another planet as well as transmogrifying into a tyrannosaurus, And readers are constantly made to guess whether Calvin's tiger, Hobbes, is real or merely a stuffed toy. Thus, it delves deep into the nature of subjective experience.

Hobbes, like many characters in comic books, represent the dual versions of reality that converge in comic books—the objective and the subjective world. As Waterson himself explains, "I don't think of Hobbes as a doll that miraculously comes to life when Calvin is around. Neither do I think of Hobbes as a product of Calvin's imagination... I show two versions of reality, and each makes complete sense to the participant who sees it. I think that's how life works. None of us sees the world in exactly the same way, and I just draw that literally in the strip."

Flexible medium

Comics are an incredibly flexible medium. On one hand, the series of fragmented boxes offer an infinite range of interpretations while at the same time having a simplicity and directness that makes the medium powerful and mythic.

It also uses both narrative and visual techniques. The challenge in comic books is how to simulate movement through figures. Like film editing and how film stock is put together, meaning is created through how the audience "stitches together" a series of seemingly unrelated pictures which try to point toward a story.

In that sense, the meaning can both be obvious and subtle, symbolic as well as literal. Pictures can be quite explicit and outright with what it wants to say, but it can also stand with or without words. Either way, however, it will always lend itself to many readings, with readers interpreting the strip according to their own individual experiences.

Calvin and Hobbes often play their favorite game called "Calvinball." The only rule of Calvinball is to keep inventing rules. That kind of radical creativity captures the wit, vitality and the imagination of the strip.

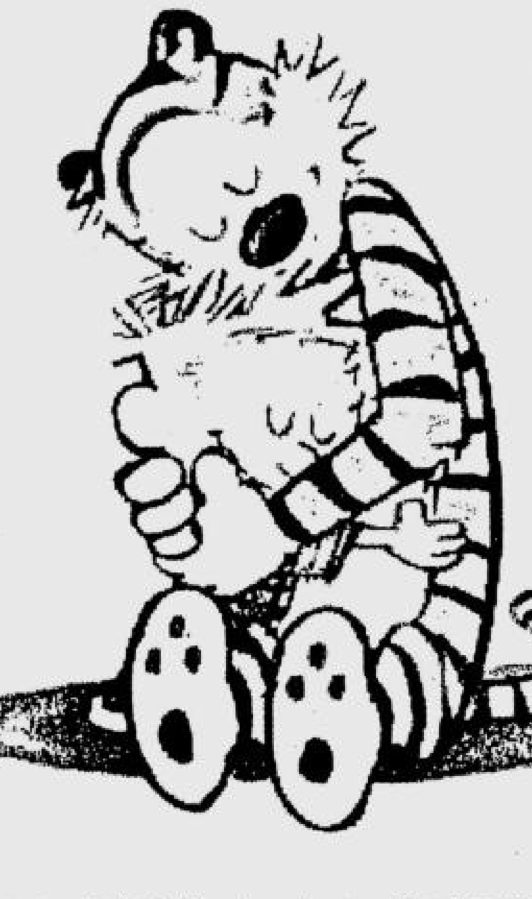
Alternate life

Contrary to what most people believe, Calvin is not based on Waterson's son or details from his own childhood. He is more a reflection of its creator's adulthood than his childhood, having been quite an obedient kid himself.

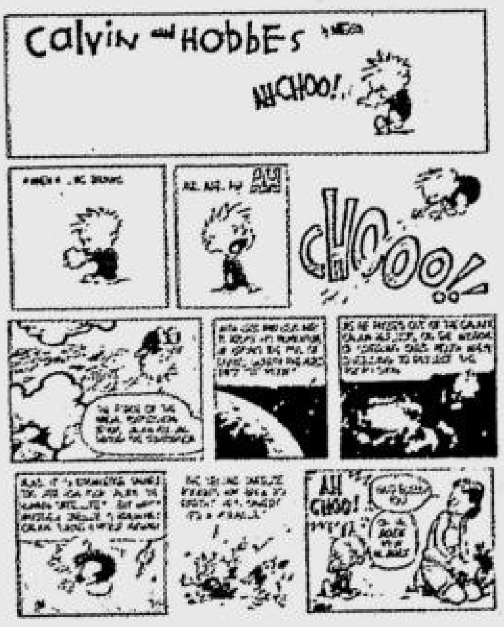
Calvin is an example of how an alternate life can be explored through fiction and, by doing so, help us sort out our mess in real life. Calvin is Waterson's outlet for his immaturity, his way to ridicule his own obsessions and maintain his curiosity about the natural world. He is a reminder of that little bratty kid inside us who wants things his or her own way.

Comics characters also show us how we might act, how we might explore the world through imagination. Like the duality of the hero and the villain most often found in comic strips, Calvin and Hobbes present the dialogue between the many sides of a story and a personality. It critiques the institution of schools, parenthood, superheroes and even comics itself.

This is because Waterson believes that "the best comics expose human nature and help us laugh at our own stupidity and hypocrisy... Surprise is the essence of humor and nothing is more surprising than the truth. When cartoons dig beyond glib punch lines, cheap sentimentality and tidy stories to deeper, truthful experiences, they can really touch people and connect us all."



READERS are constantly made to guess whether Calvin's tiger, Hobbes, is real or merely a stuffed toy.


Calvin and HOBBES
ACHOO!
CHOOO!

This unique comic strip tries to portray a 6-year-old's point of view through a more sophisticated and profound adult lens

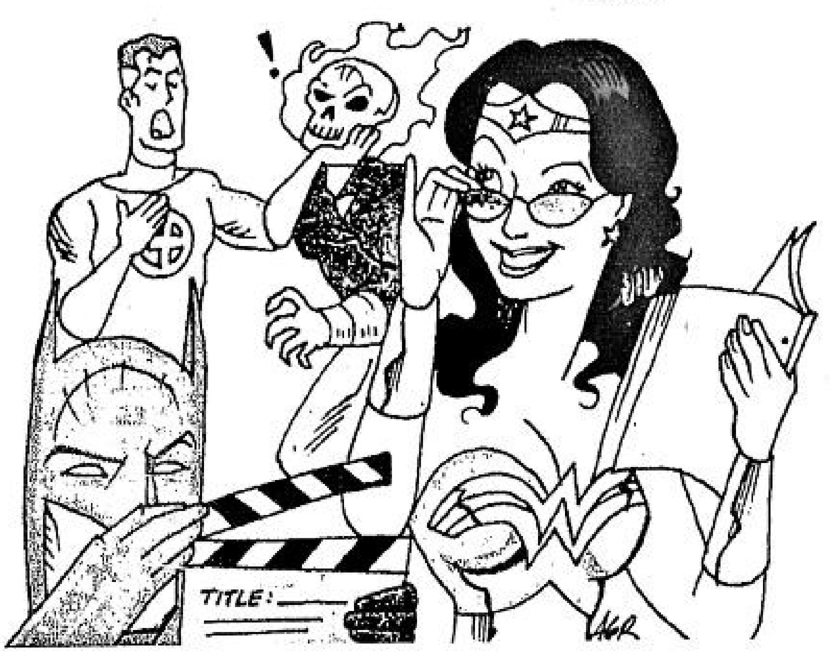


ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Celluloid heroes

By Niño Mark M. Sablan
2bU! Correspondent

GIVEN the number of comic book fanatics and fantasy and action buffs out there—not to mention the legions who are easily dazzled by special effects—basing movies on comics is always a no-brainer for movie executives.

Take Superman and Batman, for example. There is no denying how popular they are, and this popularity has played a huge part in the birth of their blockbuster cinematic franchises.

Some superhero sidekicks and supporting players also become famous on their own. Catwoman is a fine example, and Elektra is another.

So who's the next comic book character to make the big leap from the printed page to the big screen? Here are some of them:

The "Ghost Rider" movie adaptation will star Nicolas Cage and include villains like Blackheart and Mephistopheles. Meanwhile, the popular "Hellblazer" graphic novels are morphing into "Constantine," which stars Keanu Reeves as John Constantine and Rachel Weisz as Angela Dodson.

"Crow: Wicked Prayer" falls into our laps this year, starring David Boreanaz as Luc Crash, Edward Furlong as Jimmy Cuervo, Dennis Hopper as El Niño and Tara Reid as Lola Byrne.

"Fantastic Four" will be shown July of next year, with ace director Chris Columbus ("Harry Potter") as one of the brains behind it. "Green Hornet" is being directed by the controversial Kevin Smith ("Dogma").

"Man-Thing" will be out this October, starring Mark Stevens as the swamp-matter beast empathically drawn to the fear of others. One of Marvel's oldest superheroes, Namor the Sub-Mariner, will join his comic companions on the big screen perhaps by 2006. The Rock is being considered for the role of Shazam, while Sarah Michelle Gellar may be the next Wonder Woman.

New installments

The established franchises are not letting their guard down. Jennifer Connelly is contractually committed to do "Hulk 2," while Hellboy writer and artist Mike Mignola says a script for "Hellboy 2" is already in the works.

Batman Begins is targeted for a July 2005 release. It stars Christian Bale as Bruce Wayne/Batman and Katie Holmes as Rachel. Wesley Snipes, on the other hand, returns as Blade, together with Jessica Biel as Abigail Whistler, in "Blade Trinity."

"Daredevil 2" will feature the return of Kingpin (together with Mr. Fear) armed with a new weapon: the truth about Matt's identity. And of course, new Spider-Man and X-Men installments are in the works. The latter will reportedly revolve around the Phoenix saga and introduce new characters such as Gambit, Beast, Angel, Psylocke, Emma Frost, Dazzler, Juggernaut and possibly the Sentinels.

Sit back, relax and enjoy the coming spectacles!

E-mail the author at marksablan_2bu@yahoo.com

Who's the next comic book character to make the big leap from the printed page to the big screen?

Graphic reveries

From page D5

"Death and Venice," drawn by P. Craig Russell, transports us to an island Death cannot enter. Its inhabitants live the same day over and over. To amuse themselves, they come up with the most fascinating ways to "die," such as getting "crushed to death by a bull elephant between two beautiful virgins at the moment of orgasm." Russell's art is neat and features clean lines. He has no trouble dealing with the bull elephant scene.

The two stories that follow are among my personal favorites. Milo Manara's "What I've Tasted of Desire" and Miguelanxo Prado's "The Heart of a Star" have the strongest storylines in the series. Manara's rendering of Desire's piece is appropriately sensual and rich. The art is abundant, with a lot going on per frame.

Loyal readers will find Dream's tale the most interesting. It's the only one that has all of the Endless in it. It also provides us with some background on the dynamics of the family. We see Dream and Desire before they were enemies, Death before she was her charming and playful self, Delirium when she was still known as Delight and Despair before she was so drab and grey.

Ethereal beauty

Prado's art in "The Heart of a Star" has an ethereal beauty and his coloring is delicately subdued. Both these stories are essentially about love, and who doesn't like a good love story?

Gaiman's narrative in "15 Portraits of Despair" is unconventional, bordering on the poetic. Barron Storey uses a myriad of techniques to convey his message in an assortment of powerful visuals. Each vignette gives us a glimpse of what Despair sees through her grey eyes.

This story has the most potential to move you emotionally. I read it in the dead of the night by the glare of a single fluorescent bulb. It put me into a kind of daze, and I closed the book and stared into space for a time before I finally drifted off to sleep.

Despair's story is by far my favorite because of the reaction it is able to evoke. The text and visuals complement each other perfectly and draw the reader in.

The two others that follow are probably the weakest in terms of storytelling. We become part of the madness of Delirium's realm in "Going Inside." Bill Sienkiewicz's chaos of drawings augments the non-linear way Gaiman tells this one. "Going Inside" is pure eye candy, really nice to look at.

Next up is "On the Peninsula," starring Destruction. While the premise is interesting—a bunch of archaeologists digging up artifacts from the future—the story just doesn't take off. It's the most pedestrian of the bunch, and Glenn Fabry's art doesn't do anything to make it more exciting.

Finally, we are taken for a walk in Destiny's garden by Frank Quitely. His minimalist paintings are very effective. We see a lot of white spaces and we know that he left them blank on purpose. This is another piece where the text is carried by the artwork, for Destiny's story is not really a story but more of a brief postscript—a quiet way of saying goodbye.

On the whole, "The Sandman: Endless Nights" is vintage Gaiman. You won't be disappointed as long as you don't expect it to be what it isn't. It's not meant to tell a single story with a single plot. Take it one at a time and judge each on its own merit. It's a comic book you'd love to read again and again.

INQUIRER
GMA
?
ClickTheCity.com

THE INQUIRER SEMINAR SERIES PRESENTS
GENERATION WHY 3
Linking the Barangay to the Global Village: New Challenges for the Filipino Youth
October 27, 2004 8:00AM to 5:00 PM
Henry Lee Irwin Theater, Ateneo de Manila University
FEATURING
- Sen. Francis Pangilinan
- Ambeth Ocampo
- Ruel S. De Vera
- Mon Isberto
- Mon Lizardo
- Niel Dagondon

APPLICATION FORM
COMPLETE NAME
SCHOOL
YEAR & COURSE
E-MAIL
LANDLINE NO.
MOBILE NO.
ENUMERATE AWARDS YOU HAVE RECEIVED
KINDLY ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION: HOW CAN THE YOUTH INITIATE POSITIVE CHANGE IN PHILIPPINE SOCIETY?

APPLY NOW! Forms and payments accepted until Oct. 16, 2004
Send completed application forms to telefax 447-9594 or mail them to Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inquirer Building, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City. Visit www.genwhy3.com, contact 0917-8502092 or e-mail genwhy3@yahoo.com for more details.
DONATE A STORYBOOK AND WIN A SPECIAL PRIZE FROM INQUIRER
Limit one prize per person

STA. LUCIA EAST GRAND MALL
MARCOS HIGHWAY COR. FELIX AVE., CAINTA RIZAL
MALL HOURS: 10 AM - 9 PM
3-DAY PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE
OCT. 15, 16 & 17

Get a chance to win a living room set for every P300 single or accumulated purchase receipt. Plus, redeem a P500 single receipt for another coupon for a chance to bring home a new car in the 1st Grand Draw of the 13th Anniversary Giveaway Promo.

Birthday Bowl-Out
Have fun with family and friends and have a striking birthday party at Sta. Lucia East Bowling Center. Enjoy the affordable birthday packages with party favors and sumptuous meals to choose from. Call 6815401 loc. 112 for details.

Kids Sale
On-going until October 31, avail up to 50% discount on kids' apparel, shoes, bags, accessories and other kiddie stuff from Sta. Lucia East Department Store and Planet Toys.
(Per DTI Rizal Permit # 154 series of 2004)

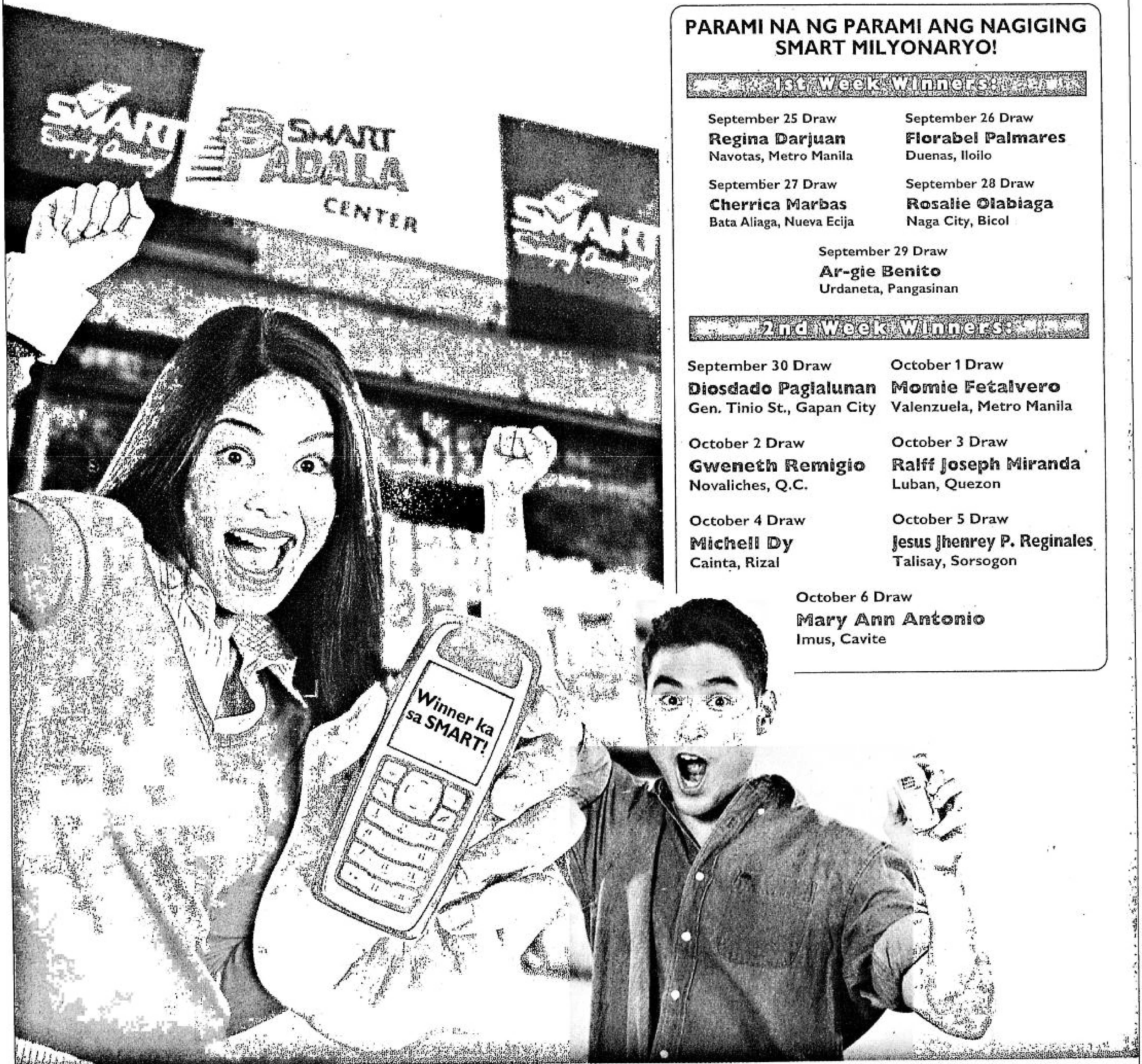
(Per DTI Rizal Permit # 145 & 146 series of 2004)

SMART

BALITANG MILYONARYO

Bawat Load,*
₱1 Million
Araw-Araw
Papremyo!

May 10%
Extra Load Pa
Agad-Agad!



PARAMI NA NG PARAMI ANG NAGIGING SMART MILYONARYO!

1st Week Winners:

September 25 Draw
Regina Darjuan
Navotas, Metro Manila

September 26 Draw
Florabel Palmares
Duenas, Iloilo

September 27 Draw
Cherrica Marbas
Bata Aliaga, Nueva Ecija

September 28 Draw
Rosalie Olabiaga
Naga City, Bicol

September 29 Draw
Ar-gie Benito
Urdaneta, Pangasinan

2nd Week Winners:

September 30 Draw
Diosdado Paglalunan
Gen. Tinio St., Gapan City

October 1 Draw
Momie Fetalvero
Valenzuela, Metro Manila

October 2 Draw
Gweneth Remigio
Novaliches, Q.C.

October 3 Draw
Ralff Joseph Miranda
Luban, Quezon

October 4 Draw
Michell Dy
Cainta, Rizal

October 5 Draw
Jesus Jhenrey P. Reginales
Talisay, Sorsogon

October 6 Draw
Mary Ann Antonio
Imus, Cavite

Kaya ano pa'ng hinihintay n'yo? Register for FREE at mag-Load na Araw-Araw!

Sa halagang ₱30 lang, maaari ka nang maging SMART Milyonaryo! WINNER KA SA SMART!

Para sumali sa raffle, key in
MILYON space
REG space
<Full Name>* <Address>*
<Birthday-mmddyyyy >*
<Gender-M or F>

MILYON REG
Mica Cruz*
12 Sta. Cruz St.,
Manila*03191981*
F

Send to 270.

270

(Registration is FREE. *Non-registration will make entries invalid.*)

To check the number of raffle entries earned⁺, key in MILYON ENTRY.
(Cost is ₱2.50 per inquiry)

MILYON ENTRY

Send to 270.

270

⁺Raffle entries earned per load are qualified for the daily draw but will be reflected the following day.

SMART Load Denomination	10% Extra Load	Raffle Entries Earned
Php 30	₱ 3.00	1 entry
Php 60	₱ 6.00	3 entries
Php 115	₱ 12.00	10 entries
Php 200	₱ 20.00	20 entries

*Available only for:

Smart Buddy Load

Talk 'N Text Load

SMART Padala Transactions will not earn raffle entries.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

See posters and flyers for details.
Promo is from September 25 to October 24, 2004
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3107, Series of 2004

For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, *888 using your SMART cellfone, send a text message to 888 (₱1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, log on to www.smart.com.ph or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

2BU! EXCLUSIVE

Songs in the Keys of life

The Grammy-winning soul musician discovers how much Manila is into her groove

Tim Yap

HER every soulful groove elicited shrieks from the audience. When she raised her fists, the crowd raised theirs, too. She seemed to make love to her music—and the crowd roared for more of **Alicia Keys.**

Her music spans generations—from Mozart to Chopin to '60s and '70s ditties. That Saturday night at the jampacked Araneta Coliseum, R&B and soul lovers of all ages flocked to witness and hear what this Grammy award winner had in store for her very receptive audience.

The concert started at 8:30 (the tickets said 8 p.m.)—very prompt for Filipino time. Local R&B royals **Luke Mijares** and **Kyla** opened the show. Wild applause met each number. It felt great hearing the crowd cheer for our very own.

Seated on the second row was **Jasmine Trias**, herself an avid fan of Alicia. "The best concert we've witnessed this year," I overheard a bunch of yuppies talk while gushing over Alicia. Looking around, it somehow felt like a ravé party, with the concertgoers flaunting their glow sticks in the air as they screamed their love messages for their soul idol.

Onstage, she was pulsating with electricity. Every beat cast a lusty spell on the audience. Her trademark braided locks looked even more seductive as she swayed her head and lured her worshippers into her den.

'I love Manila!'

Once the audience turned the key, Alicia's world of emotion-filled lyrics and beautifully mastered melodies overwhelmed them. And they reacted with adulation. She would later return the adulation that she so generously got from her audience. "I knew it that from the first time I heard that I was gonna visit this place that I would love Manila!" she roared.

She knew how to tease. In fact, she teased her audience so well that she left them constantly hungry for more of her. She would prolong foreplay by playing a different intro to her more popular songs, and when you least expect it—that was when she'd dish it out and attack.

I got more than goosebumps when she sang "If I Ain't Got You," a song that had been playing on my head for the last couple of weeks. And unlike most artists who sing their most popular songs at the finale, she gave it out quite early, to serve as appetizer for things to come.

At one point in her show, she even used the piano as her bed, titillating the audience some more.

Much later as dessert, she sang two songs for her encore, songs that had vital messages for peace, that if another artist were to interpret, would sound fake. But since it was Alicia Keys who was giving it life, they delivered the message straight to where it counted.

2bU! talked to her before she left the country to continue her world tour.

SONGS/ E6

A-LIST PERFORMER. The Alicia Keys concert was sold out weeks before the singer arrived in Manila. TIM YAP

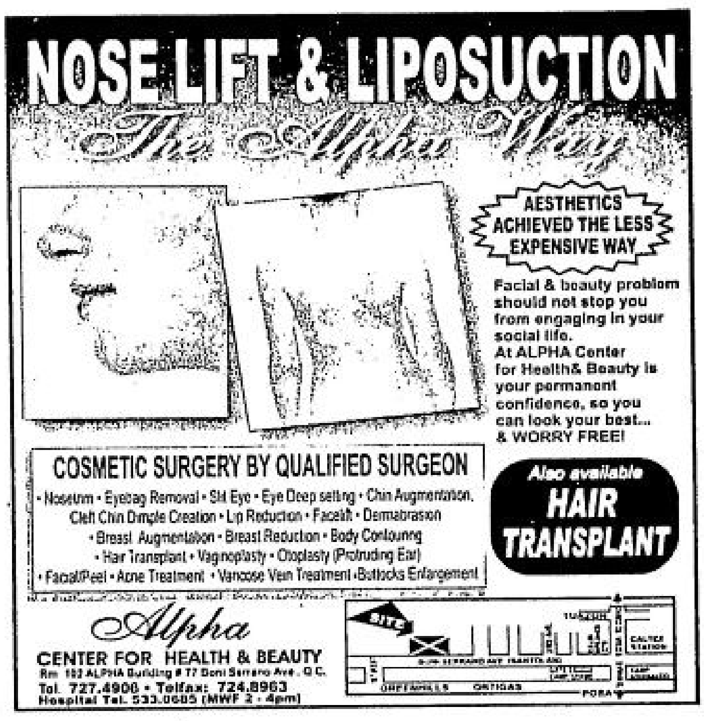
WANT HIGHER GRADES?
ENROLL THIS SEMBREAK AND SEE THE DIFFERENCE

- Absorb more information in less time
- Avoid mental blocks during exams
- Remember unfamiliar terms
- Make learning fun and enjoyable

Contact us now:
Ortigas: ☎ 687-7070 • 914-9090
Taft: ☎ 404-3684 • 404-3813
Katipunan: ☎ 436-0381 to 82
Mobile: 0917-8481800
E-mail: memorycoach@hotmail.com

Power memory
Oxygen for Learning
A breakthrough learning system for students, professionals and board examinees.

NOW OPEN FOR FRANCHISING. Call ☎ 633-8171



NOSE LIFT & LIPOSUCTION
The Alpha Way

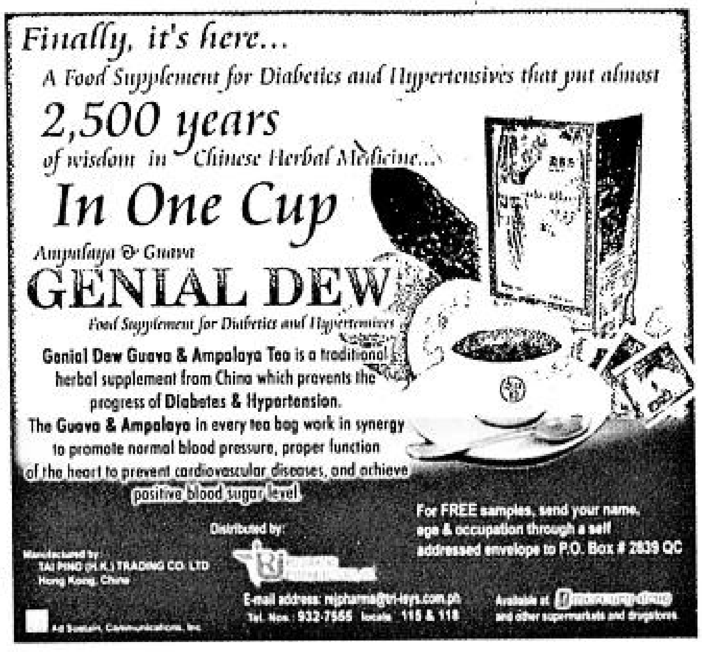
AESTHETICS ACHIEVED THE LESS EXPENSIVE WAY

Facial & beauty problem should not stop you from engaging in your social life. At ALPHA Center for Health& Beauty is your permanent confidence, so you can look your best... & WORRY FREE!

COSMETIC SURGERY BY QUALIFIED SURGEON
• Noselift • Eyebag Removal • Slit Eye • Eye Deep setting • Chin Augmentation, Cleft Chin Dimple Creation • Lip Reduction • Facelift • Dermabrasion • Breast Augmentation • Breast Reduction • Body Contouring • Hair Transplant • Vaginoplasty • Otoplasty (Protruding Ear) • Facial/Peel • Acne Treatment • Varicose Vein Treatment • Buttocks Enlargement

Also available HAIR TRANSPLANT

Alpha
CENTER FOR HEALTH & BEAUTY
Rm. 102 ALPHA Building # 77 Doni Serrano Ave., Q.C.
Tel. 727.4900 • Telfax: 724.8963
Hospital Tel. 533.0685 (MWF 2 - 4pm)



Finally, it's here...
A Food Supplement for Diabetics and Hypertensives that put almost
2,500 years of wisdom in Chinese Herbal Medicine...
In One Cup
Ampalaya & Guava
GENIAL DEW
Food Supplement for Diabetics and Hypertensives

Genial Dew Guava & Ampalaya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.
The Guava & Ampalaya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart to prevent cardiovascular diseases, and achieve positive blood sugar level.

Manufactured by: TAI PING (H.K.) TRADING CO. LTD Hong Kong, China
Distributed by:
For FREE samples, send your name, age & occupation through a self addressed envelope to P.O. Box # 2839 QC
E-mail address: rejpharma@tri-isys.com.ph
Tel. Nos.: 932-7565 locals 115 & 118
Available at [illegible] and other supermarkets and drugstores.

DUNKIN' DONUTS
sugar raised
honey dip
Classics
Classics
sugar raised
honey dip
Classics
P120/dozen
DUNKIN' DONUTS

From pulp pages to projectors

By Matthew Arcilla
Contributor

IT isn't too much of a stretch to say that comics have been a part of everyone's life in some form or another, whether it's the resolutely alternative work of underground artists like Robert Crumb, the Shakespearean pretentions of Silver Age superheroes and their descendants or the unabashedly PG sensibilities of Archie and his pals.

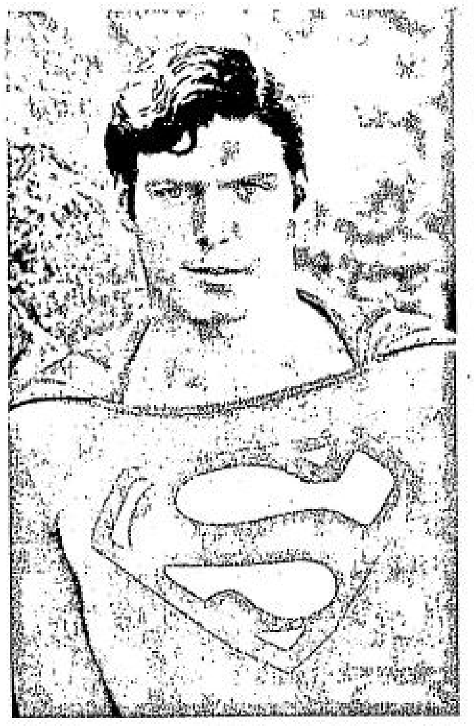
KINKY kitty and dirty bird. Catwoman and Penguin are very, very bad people.

The history of comic book movies, for most, began in 1979 with "Superman," under the direction of the studiously mainstream Richard Donner. It brought us a definitive superhero, played with charm and heft by Christopher Reeve. But in the less-engaging sequels, it also brought us a terribly unfunny Richard Pryor.

In 1989, Tim Burton, a director with superpowers to produce appealing mainstream fare without compromising his quirky sensibilities, was handed the reins to the most famous Caped Crusader of all: Batman.

Burton eschewed the frenetic camp of the '60s TV show and the moral ambiguity of the '80s comics, and presented the Dark Knight's world to audiences as Wagnerian opera-meets-Gothic spectacle.

Burton's vision was subsequently cheapened when Joel Schumacher ("Falling Down" and "St. Elmo's Fire") took over for the third and fourth films. The result: Kevlar nipples and the first-ever film in which Arnold Schwarzenegger wore fuzzy slippers with pride.



BIG blue boy scout. Christopher Reeve had the best, most gorgeous spit-curl hairdo ever to grace the silver screen.

LOOKING GOOD. Spider-Man rescues his damsel right on time.

Cultural phenomenon

In 1987, there was a cultural phenomenon that went by the name of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Originally conceived by their creators as a parody of Marvel's Daredevil character, the movie achieved instead massive licensing success through action figures, video games, t-shirts, an animated series and, in 1990, a feature film.

But these lean, mean and green pizza-snarfing machines were a multimillion-dollar pop culture craze that came and went faster than you can say "Pokemon."

In the '90s, America's teenagers saw life in a made-for-TV production called Archie: To Riverdale and Back Again. Michael Jae White played a double-crossed and deceased government mercenary back from hell in Spawn, while Shaquille O'Neal portrayed a weapons designer turned ironclad vigilante named Steel. It was a long dry spell for comics-based films.

Then in 1997, Men in Black happened. Marvel got the rights to the comic when it acquired its original publisher, West Coast-based Malibu Comics. Infused with a tongue-in-cheek, referential sense of humor, the movie, with stars Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones and director Barry Sonnenfeld, was a spectacular success.

A year after that, hot on the heels of relentlessly over-the-top films like "Face/Off," came "Blade." It featured Wesley Snipes in what could have been some forgettable mush of kung fu fighting and horror camp. But director Stephen Norrington expertly mixed the elements together to create a non-stop blood-sucking showdown.

Both "Men in Black" and "Blade" were relatively unknown properties under the Marvel umbrella, but when they flashed on hundreds of screens worldwide, the House of Ideas finally had box-office gold in its hands.

The direct result of this was the launching of a franchise with the most slavish cult of all: The X-Men.

Bryan Singer, a young director noted for "The Usual Suspects" and "The Apt Pupil," took Marvel's Merry Mutants into celluloid immortality by rationalizing their world as a simple science-fiction what-if scenario. The 2003 sequel greatly expanded this universe with shifting alliances and more socio-political intrigue.

Non-superheroes

But below the pop-culture radars of most people in 2001 was Ghost World, based on a "graphic novel" by indie creator Daniel Clowes. It featured quirky actresses Thora Birch and Scarlett Johansson as two teenagers making the painful transition from late adolescence to adulthood. Here, Birch recaptured the magical portrayal of arrogance and uncertainty that she displayed in "American Beauty," and Steve Buscemi did an expert job as a self-alienating record collector.

"Ghost World" isn't the only comic-based film not to feature superheroes. "Road to Perdition," about a fugitive gangster and his son, offered unmistakable star power in Tom Hanks and the superbly understated Paul Newman. The recent "American Splendor," meanwhile, is a biopic about alternative comics creator Harvey Pekar.

Unfortunately, one of these non-superhero films is a complete turkey. 2001's "From Hell," based on a king-sized doozy of a graphic novel by industry legend Alan Moore (in collaboration with artist Eddie Campbell), is about the most famous serial killer of all: Jack the Ripper.

While the graphic novel was a conspiracy tale that didn't revel in any mystery as to who the killer was, the film (by "Menace II Society" directors The Hughes Brothers) inverted this narrative by presenting a straightforward whodunit—to completely banal results.

Well, let's not forget the spatially incoherent "League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" and the blue-collar existentialism of "Hellboy" in the mix.

Flag bearer

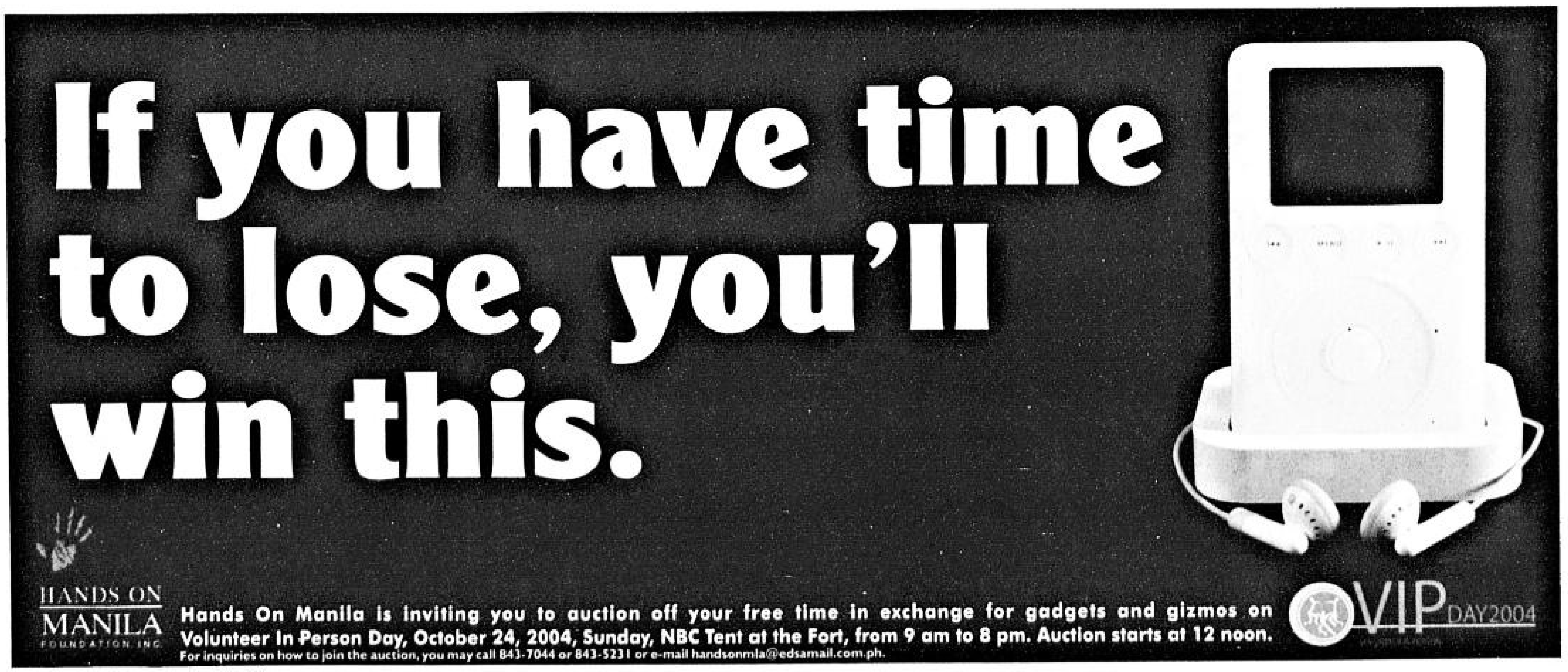
Now, of course, there's Spider-Man,, arguably the flag bearer for this decade's crop of comic-based films. Boasting a director (Sam Raimi) with a flair for the theatrical, and special effects finally competent enough to do its hero justice (even if it looks a little too hyper-kinetic), Spider-Man trades the grandiosity of Burton's "Batman" and the social conceits of Singer's "X-Men" for emotional gravitas.

Tobey Maguire plays Peter Parker as a physically empowered geek with even more superheroic pathos than director Raimi's earlier "Darkman." Which can't be said of Ang Lee's experimentally middlebrow "Hulk," with Eric Bana's inert portrayal at its center.

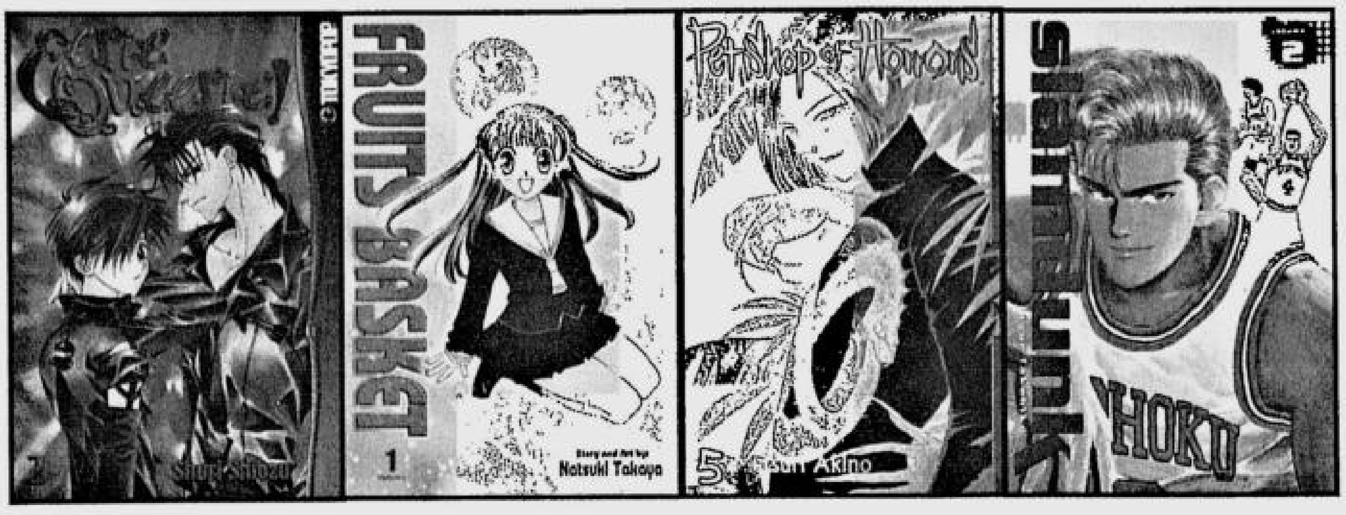
So there you have—some hits, some misses. Fortunately, the vitality and beauty of these comic-book creations will always outlive their cinematic versions. The "Punisher" movie was dreadful, but there's always the book.

I'M GONNA get you, bloodsucker. Blade and Deacon Frost get intimate.

Libresse™ Teens® Crazy Coed Challenge
October 24, 2004
10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Glorietta Activity Center
Hosted by Juddha Paolo, Georgia of Wave 89.1 & Eric Tipan of K-lite
Feel your best! It's your day! Have fun, be sporty, because you rule!
It's a whole day of fun, physical and mental challenges, games, interactive booths and fashion show.
Gimmicks All Day!
Watch and Cheer! for these cutie celebrities as they team up with the challengers from the TOP SCHOOLS and face the reality based challenges.
Be in Style!
Cheer your Best!
*Registered by SCA Hygiene Products, Sweden. Libresse is a trademark of the SCA Group

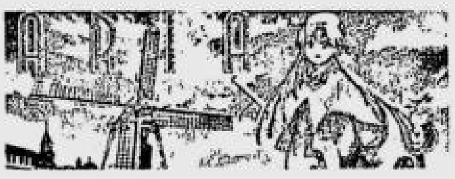


HANDS ON MANILA FOUNDATION, INC.
Hands On Manila is inviting you to auction off your free time in exchange for gadgets and gizmos on Volunteer In Person Day, October 24, 2004, Sunday, NBC Tent at the Fort, from 9 am to 8 pm. Auction starts at 12 noon.
For inquiries on how to join the auction, you may call 843-7044 or 843-5231 or e-mail handsonmla@edsamail.com.ph.
SPACE DONATED BY THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



Reading Japanese comics is a mental-visual challenge, but once you get past that, you're in for quite a ride

Mangalomania!



By Ces Cabangon
2bU! Correspondent

THERE'S something strangely interesting about reading a book backwards. Your forehead crumples as you fight the natural urge to read from left to right. You're challenged to rewire your brain and appreciate a book's aesthetics.

Reading *manga* is a mental-visual challenge, but once you get past that, you're in for quite a ride!

For the uninitiated, *manga* is the term for Japanese comics. *Manga* stories range from the ordinary to the absurd, on everything from self-discovery, the complexities of relationships and the fanatical world of sports.

In the world of *manga*, imagination knows no rules. You can very well find yourself addicted to *manga* soon after your first book, and craving for a daily fix of it like you do for your daily soap opera. After all, the drama, comedy, action and romance quotient run as high as TV serials. That's why it comes as no surprise that popular *manga* stories are routinely translated into animé.

Manga's audience is as diverse as its genres because there's something for everyone. *Manga* isn't formulaic like Western comics. It breaks conventions and expectations with its unpredictable endings, strange twists and turns, and its unique Japanese flavor. Westerners can only dream of achieving *manga's* extensive influence, one that stretches from print to animation.

Here are some interesting titles to give you a head start into the crazy, inventive world of *manga*. Some themes dwell on sensitive issues. Unless you can keep an open mind, you should stick to Archie's.

"Aria"
By Kozue Amano
Fantasy

Plot: Far into the future, Mars is terraformed into the water planet Aqua. Its splendor is untarnished by man's technology: islands float in the sky, and the submerged ancient city of Venice is replicated and comes back to life. Akari Mizunashi leaves Earth to become a full-fledged gondolier in this backward world. She has to master the canals and routes that take one to the heart of Neo-Venezia.

The bottom line: With its simple, dreamlike quality, "Aria" revives a sense of wonder and magic for the things we take for granted everyday. There's a feeling of nostalgia for things past and things disappearing. As you turn the pages in awe, you find yourself yearning for Akari's life of beauty, spontaneity and simple pleasures.

"Battle Royale"
By Koushun Takami and Masayuki Taguchi
Action

Plot: A high school class has the misfortune of being randomly picked from a lottery of sections for "The Program." They are abducted and spirited to an island where they are forced to kill each other for reality TV. "The Program" is endorsed by the government and offers no way out for its unlucky participants—it's either they kill or be killed.

The bottom line: This series explores the intricacies of human relationships and instincts. It disturbingly captures society's apathy towards its youth, the government's absence of conscience and the media's lack of humanity. This serial, however, also redefines the meaning of friendship.

"Eerie Queerie"
By Shuri Shiozu
Drama

Plot: Mitsuo Shiozu is a quiet student attending an all boys' school. He leads a normal life until he discovers his ability to communicate with spirits. Soon, troubled female souls take over his mind and body. As they possess Mitsuo, he is placed in unusual circumstances, not least of which is gaining admirers among fellow clairvoyants.

The bottom line: This title exposes us to people from different walks of life, all of whom interconnect through Mitsuo's gift. We see how seemingly insignificant acts can affect others in a big way. Mitsuo himself is trudging on the path to self-discovery, and his challenge is to find himself in a lifetime that is all too brief.

"Fruits Basket"
By Natsuki Takaya
Romantic Comedy

Plot: Think your home is like "Animal House" sometimes? You're not alone. Meet Tohru Honda, an orphan girl who seeks shelter in the family residence of Yuki Sohma, the school heartthrob. Tohru soon stumbles on the family's deepest, darkest secret: Each family member transforms into a Chinese zodiac animal once he or she is hugged by the opposite sex.

The bottom line: "Fruits Basket" is adorable and touching. Behind all the cute art is a poignant story about hope, healing and finding where you belong. In the end, this story gets you through a tough day by convincing you that happiness isn't so hard to find.

"Petshop of Horrors"
By Matsuri Akino
Horror

Plot: A pet store in New York's Chinatown can grant you your heart's desire, for a price that may be paid in death. Count D is the temporary custodian to creatures who are not what they seem. As strange events occur, detective Leon Orcot is convinced that Count D is responsible for these incidents, and he will do everything to pin down the Count.

The bottom line: "Petshop of Horrors" intertwines the lives of Count D and his customers. In each purchase lies a story that is as creepy, bizarre and tragic as any "Twilight Zone" episode. The subtle, detached tone of the stories make for a dark and tragic reading experience.

Each volume of this title is self-contained. You don't have to read from the beginning of the series to catch up with the plot.

"Slam Dunk"
By Inoue Takehiko
Sports Comedy

Plot: When Hanamichi Sakuragi learns that the girl of his dreams is crazy about basketball, he impulsively auditions for the school team. Though clueless about the game's rules and plays, he turns out to be a natural. But, soon, he learns that there's more at stake than what he had in mind initially.

The bottom line: Full of wacky antics and funny lines, this *manga* is a must for followers of the animé version, as there are interesting differences between the two. Its pages are adrenaline-packed, and the love fool Hanamichi is endearing.

Titles are available at Comic Quest, Fully Booked and Bibliarch. Visit Summit Manga at www.manga.com.ph for official Philippine manga editions.

The incredible shrinking superheroes

By Danicar Mariano
2bU! Correspondent

FANTASY is a commentary on life. In giving us the precious distance of make-believe, it provides a clearer picture of where we are and where we are headed.

Superhero comics, like the "Kingdom Come" series by Mark Waid and Alex Ross, are direct spawns of that need for fantasy in our lives.

"Kingdom Come" is a unique comic book in that it shows us the evolution of the classic DC heroes—Superman, Wonderwoman, Batman, among others—in a postmodern, cynical world. It's a comic book that looks at the medium itself and shows us how these superheroes become aware of the attention bestowed on them by the human race, sometimes with disheartening results.

A scene shows how degraded the symbolic significance of these heroes have become, with workaday waiters and waitresses dressed as Wonderwoman, Green Lantern, the Flash, etc. In this version of the world, the old glory of the legendary superheroes has lost its shine, with Superman and many others retiring and fading away into myth.

Others like Flash and the Hawkman continue to do their good deeds secretly. And while these superheroes of old are dying, they are being replaced with more hip, modern and flashy metahumans and anti-heroes—a sign, perhaps, of the changing social norms.

Mythic significance

In his prime, Superman had always wielded immense political, psychological and mythic significance. The story of how Superman's parents sent him to earth to save him from the destruction of Krypton has always spoken to the American consciousness because it speaks of the main themes that characterize the American experience—immigration and integration.

It speaks as well to the Filipino mindset for perhaps the same reason, and also because of the large impact of American colonialization and globalization on us.

Superman's appeal eventually became universal because of its religious undertones, with Superman standing in for Moses, Christ, or other deliverers. As Moses was sent down the river on a basket, so too was Superman sent hurtling on a basket-like spaceship to Earth.

As Christ was raised by Mary and Joseph, two simple folks, so too was Superman discovered by humble farming parents and raised as their own. Sacrifice, selflessness, strength and rebirth are key themes of hero mythologies, but in Superman they find specificity as this superhero "fights for truth, justice and the American way."

But these days, people no longer seem to want 'gentle and old-fashioned' superheroes like Superman to face the challenges of the 21st century. They want their heroes meaner and more complex, with good and evil sketched in various shades of gray rather than in the previously comforting black and white.

Subtle similarities

As Samuel Jackson's character in "Unbreakable" observes, comic heroes often share many similarities with their arch villains. In fact, they are usually friends, the better to highlight their subtle similarities amid the dramatic contrasts.

However, as these characters become more knotted and multidimensional, the good and bad impulses that drive the story forward play more and more in the psyche of the protagonist, leading to strikingly tormented, conflicted characters—superheroes for a grittier, more brutish era.

In "Kingdom Come," for instance, we learn that Superman has been forced into an early retirement in his Kansas ranch because people no longer shared his goody-goody ideals. As some metahumans put it, "he was no longer the man of tomorrow but more the man of the 1950s."

But "Kingdom Come" also shows us the enduring appeal of the classic superhero. We see the romantic tension between Wonder Woman and Superman as she tries to convince him to snap out of retirement and return to being Superman because of the worsening conditions in the world. Without him, metahumans have proliferated and ran rampant without any sense of responsibility for their superpower gifts.

What is wonderful about this comic book is the absence of any super-villain. The enemy is within. It shows us that the greatest source of conflict is our own intolerance of diversity and fear of the unknown.

PROD. NO.
SCENE
TAKE
ROLL
DATE
SOUND
PROD. CO.
DIRECTOR
CAMERAMAN
Sony Ericsson

Sony Ericsson

ENTERTAIN YOUR SENSES.
THE NEW K500i.

Liven up your serious side. Or get naughty after being nice all day. After all, you're someone else in the K500i's world of entertainment. In an instant, you could be a secret agent on a mission. The next, a groove-spinning DJ. Want to play photographer or direct your own home video? Do both in a matter of seconds. And when you need to take a break from the action, catch a movie trailer or music video clip. The new **K500i**. Thrilling, whatever your mood.

K500i

- Dual Front Design (Camera Front & Phone Front) • QuickShare™
- GPRS • Video Camera • Integrated Camera with Lens Cover
- 1.8", 128x160 Pixels 65K TFT Colour Screen • 3D Java Gaming
- MP3/MPEG4 Player • PlayNow™ • 40 Polyphonic Ringtones
- Email • WAP 2.0 • MMS

Put fun into your life with cool screensavers, ringtones, wallpapers and games!
FUN downloads

For more information please call the SONY ERICSSON CALL CENTER at (632) 635-1660 to 61 or log on to www.sonyericsson.com

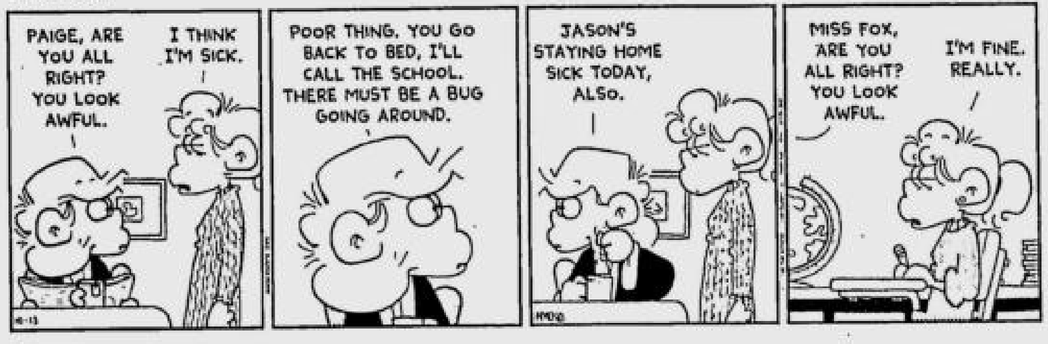
SEMICON
TELECOM EXCELLENCE WITHIN YOUR REACH

SHOWROOM Bldg., Marcos Highway, Dela Paz, Pasig City Tel. No.(Trunkline) 681-4965• Fax No. 681-4964 • SM CENTERPOINT 3rd Level • SM CITY NORTH EDSA Cyberzone Carpark Plaza • SM MEGAMALL 5th Level, Building B • SM SOUTHMALL Cyberzone - 2nd Level East Wing • SM MANILA 4th Level • SM FAIRVIEW 2nd Level • FESTIVAL SUPERMALL 4th Level • CYBERONE MALL 4th Level • THE PODIUM 5th Level • POWERPLANT MALL 3rd Level, Rockwell

*Semicon is an authorized dealer of Sony Ericsson providing all original mobile phones and accessories with guaranteed customer care satisfaction.

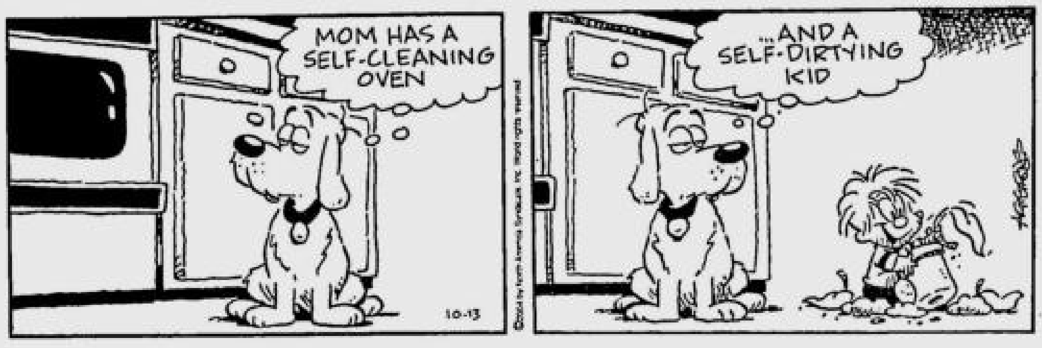
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


PAIGE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU LOOK AWFUL.
I THINK I'M SICK.
POOR THING. YOU GO BACK TO BED, I'LL CALL THE SCHOOL. THERE MUST BE A BUG GOING AROUND.
JASON'S STAYING HOME SICK TODAY, ALSO.
MISS FOX, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU LOOK AWFUL.
I'M FINE. REALLY.

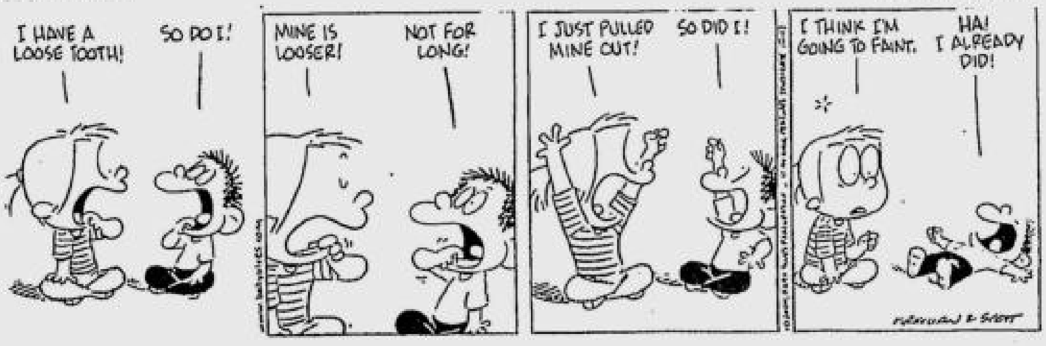
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


MOM HAS A SELF-CLEANING OVEN
...AND A SELF-DIRTYING KID
10-13

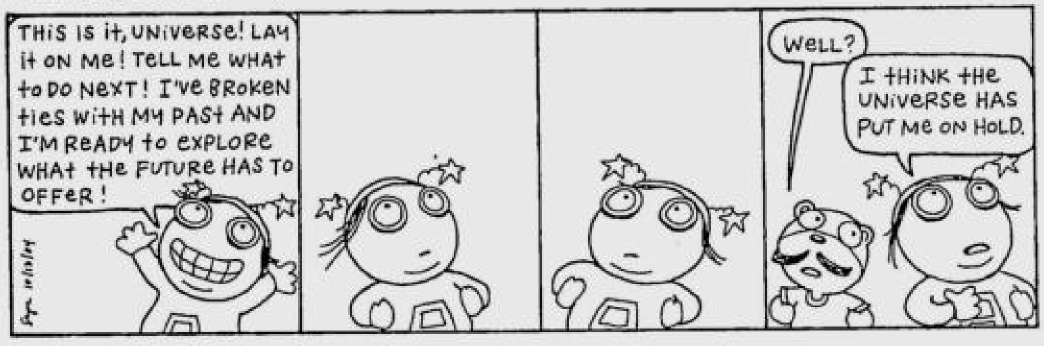
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


I HAVE A LOOSE TOOTH!
SO DO I!
MINE IS LOOSER!
NOT FOR LONG!
I JUST PULLED MINE OUT!
SO DID I!
I THINK I'M GOING TO FAINT.
HA! I ALREADY DID!

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


THIS IS IT, UNIVERSE! LAY IT ON ME! TELL ME WHAT TO DO NEXT! I'VE BROKEN TIES WITH MY PAST AND I'M READY TO EXPLORE WHAT THE FUTURE HAS TO OFFER!
WELL?
I THINK THE UNIVERSE HAS PUT ME ON HOLD.

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're modern and cutting-edge. You work hard for your success. Your standards are very professional. You demand even more from yourself than you demand from others. You have amazing perseverance and endurance. In a word: You go after what you want, and you get it. The year ahead focuses on your closest relationships.
Birthdate of: Paul Simon, musician; Kelly Preston, actress; Lenny Bruce, comedian.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Try to be diplomatic when talking to partners and close friends today. Criticisms easily fly back and forth. (This is a sure way to get your nose out of joint!)

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Bosses or co-workers might criticize you at work today. For some reason, you feel you have to account for yourself. (This goes over like a lead balloon.)

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Conversations are uncomfortable and a bit stiff today. It's as if everybody is trying to watch his or her behavior. Try not to get caught up in this game.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Sometimes a family member can make or break your day with one sentence. Unfortunately, this is one of those days. Don't take things personally. Think twice before you speak .

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Whether you have reason to be or not, you're worried today. You feel apprehensive about something. (Worry is like a rocking chair: It gives you something to do but gets you nowhere.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Someone older or more experienced might give you advice today. Try to take it in this context. Don't feel that this person is criticizing you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Your best option today is to do heavy mental, detailed work. You have the discipline to succeed at this. Don't worry about the big picture. Take care of the small stuff.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Today you might be inclined to concentrate on the faults and imperfections of others. Why bother? We all have faults and imperfections. Focusing on them is too negative.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Discussions with others can yield very positive, practical results today. Work with others to get a job done. "Many hands make light work."

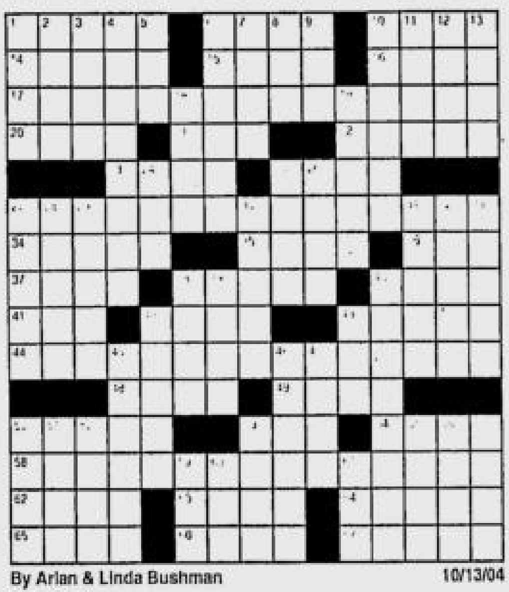
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) It's better if you work on practical details today. (Nothing is too much trouble.) You want to get little things out of the way first.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You might feel lonely or cut off from others today. Actually, this is an illusion; nevertheless, illusions feel the same as facts. (Strange but true.)

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Things are not as gloomy as you might think. You're only seeing part of the picture. Think of the story of the blind men who described their encounter with an elephant. (They were all wrong.)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Alvin Ailey forte
6 Stopper
10 Peddle by shouting
14 Mountain nymph
15 Crosby film foil
16 Seed cover
17 Vacation clock setting?
20 Soft mineral
21 Formicary resident
22 Sheriff's ID
23 Tuscany river
25 Composer Stravinsky
27 Partying desperadoes?
34 Singer LeAnn
35 Feel sorry for
36 __-Magnon
37 Melodramatic cry
38 Chase group
40 Expensive
41 Guys
42 Mambo king Puente
43 Unpolished
44 Hit TV show?
48 Hobbit allies
49 Whistle time
50 Snow White's bane
53 Actor Duryea
54 Shoot the breeze
58 Food processor?
62 Othello's nemesis
63 Cairo's river
64 Botherations
65 Sketched
66 Catch dead to rights
67 Plus



By Arlan & Linda Bushman
Chicago, IL
10/13/04

DOWN
1 Nitwit
2 Locality
3 Moonwalker Armstrong
4 Waterfalls
5 Academic URL ending
6 Prodigy, in slang
7 D.C. pol Trent
8 News service agcy.
9 Beloved person
10 Golfer's obstacle
11 SS Alex Rodriguez
12 Party faction
13 Swiss artist
18 Jaipur notable
19 Pitch black
24 Some NFL linemen
25 Winged wader
26 Entranceway
27 Pop's pop
28 Edmonton skater
29 Muscat man
30 Type of salts
31 Frost over
32 NAFTA element
33 More ticked off
38 Brad of "Troy"
39 Singer Redding
40 Soaks
42 Belief
43 Bus. honcho
45 Laid-back
46 Canine coverage
47 Hawaii's Coast
50 In the thick of
51 Partridge's tree
52 Summon
53 Prepared-food shop
55 Greet the villain
56 Pot builder
57 Check out
59 Roadside haven
60 Soccer standout Hamm
61 No. cruncher

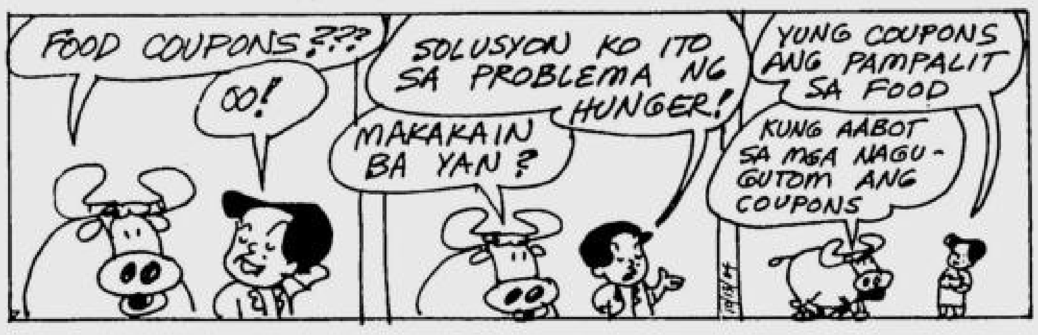
Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

S	E	T	■	I	N	L	A	Y	■	D	E	A	L	S
E	R	A	■	M	O	I	R	E	■	B	R	U	I	T
A	R	M	■	P	U	S	A	N	■	C	U	L	P	A
T	O	P	G	U	N	A	N	D	T	O	P	D	O	G
S	L	A	N	G	■	■	■	T	R	O	T	■	■	■
■	■	■	A	N	T	E	L	■	U	P	S	I	D	E
[illegible]	L	S	S	■	Y	V	O	N	N	E	■	M	I	C
D	R	P	H	I	L	A	N	D	D	R	R	U	T	H
I	G	A	■	D	E	N	T	A	L	■	E	S	S	O
C	O	M	L	I	N	■	[illegible]	K	[illegible]	I	L	■	■	■
■	■	■	S	T	O	P	■	■	■	[illegible]	E	A	M	S
L	O	W	C	A	L	A	N	D	L	O	W	F	A	T
A	R	O	A	R	■	S	C	R	U	B	■	O	R	E
T	E	M	P	O	■	S	A	U	N	A	■	O	D	E
E	M	B	E	D	■	E	A	G	E	R	■	T	I	P

(C)2004 Tribune Media Services Inc
All rights reserved
10/13/04

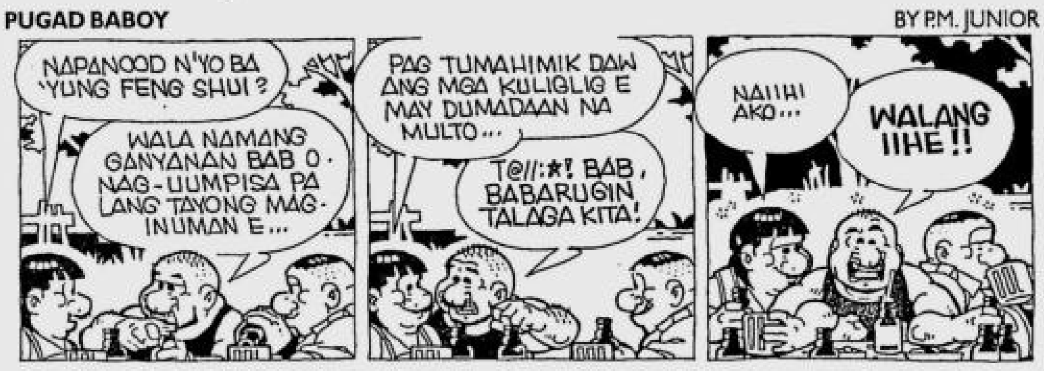
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


FOOD COUPONS???
OO!
SOLUSYON KO ITO SA PROBLEMA NG HUNGER!
MAKAKAIN BA YAN?
YUNG COUPONS ANG PAMPALIT SA FOOD
KUNG AABOT SA MGA NAGUGUTOM ANG COUPONS

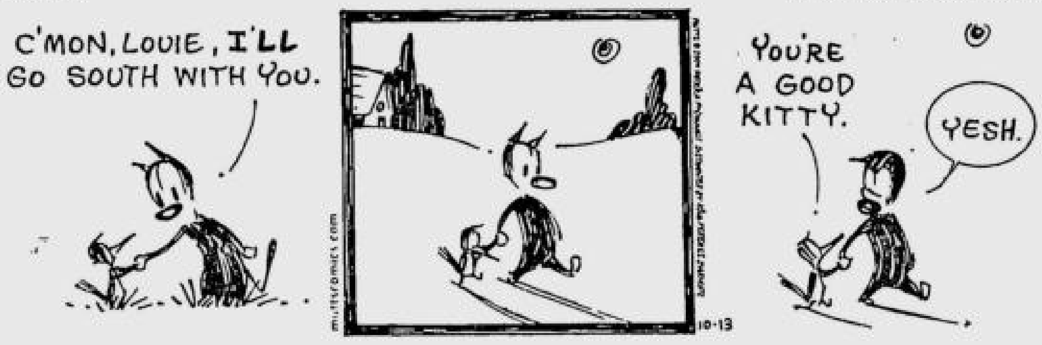
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


NAPANOOD N'YO BA 'YUNG FENG SHUI?
WALA NAMANG GANYANAN BAB O. NAG-UUMPISA PA LANG TAYONG MAG-INUMAN E...
PAG TUMAHIMIK DAW ANG MGA KULIGLIG E MAY DUMADAAN NA MULTO...
T@!/:*! BAB, BABARUGIN TALAGA KITA!
NAIIHI AKO...
WALANG IIHE!!

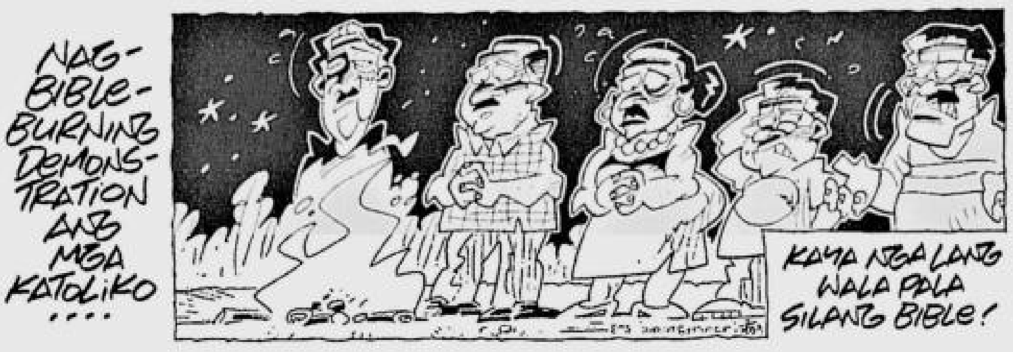
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


C'MON, LOUIE, I'LL GO SOUTH WITH YOU.
YOU'RE A GOOD KITTY.
YESH.
10-13

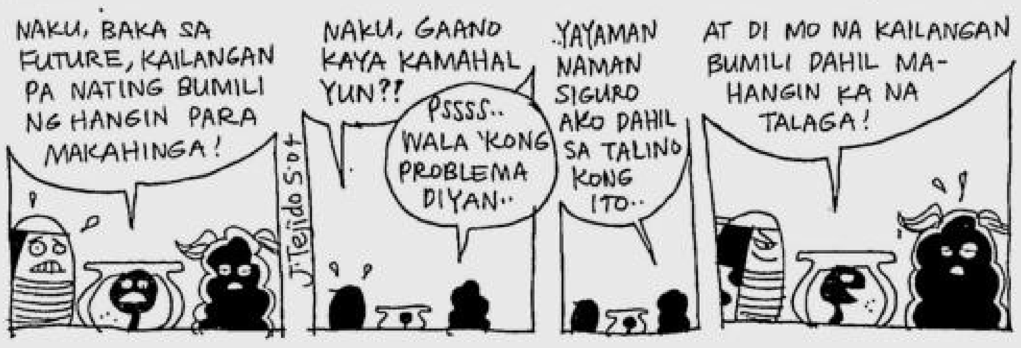
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


NAG-BIBLE-BURNING DEMONSTRATION ANG MGA KATOLIKO ....
KAYA NGA LANG WALA PALA SILANG BIBLE!

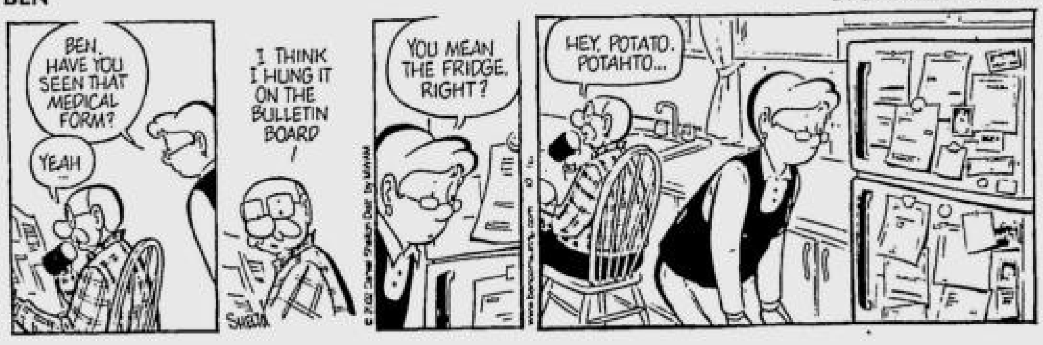
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


NAKU, BAKA SA FUTURE, KAILANGAN PA NATING BUMILI NG HANGIN PARA MAKAHINGA!
NAKU, GAANO KAYA KAMAHAL YUN?!
PSSSS.. WALA 'KONG PROBLEMA DIYAN..
YAYAMAN NAMAN SIGURO AKO DAHIL SA TALINO KONG ITO..
AT DI MO NA KAILANGAN BUMILI DAHIL MAHANGIN KA NA TALAGA!

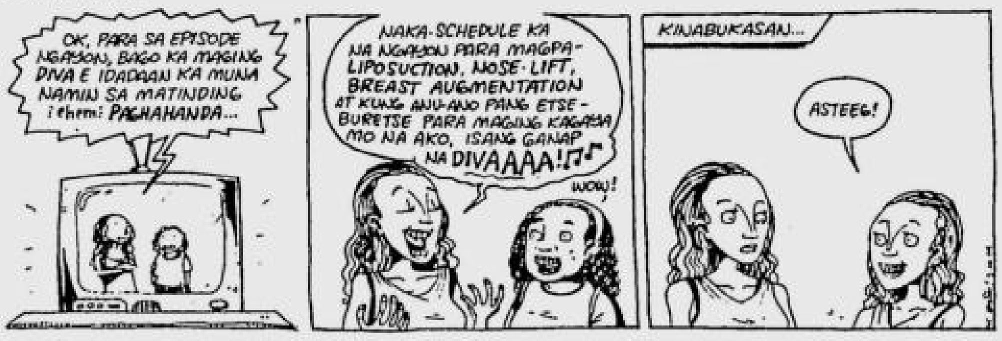
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


BEN, HAVE YOU SEEN THAT MEDICAL FORM?
YEAH
I THINK I HUNG IT ON THE BULLETIN BOARD
YOU MEAN THE FRIDGE, RIGHT?
HEY, POTATO. POTAHTO...

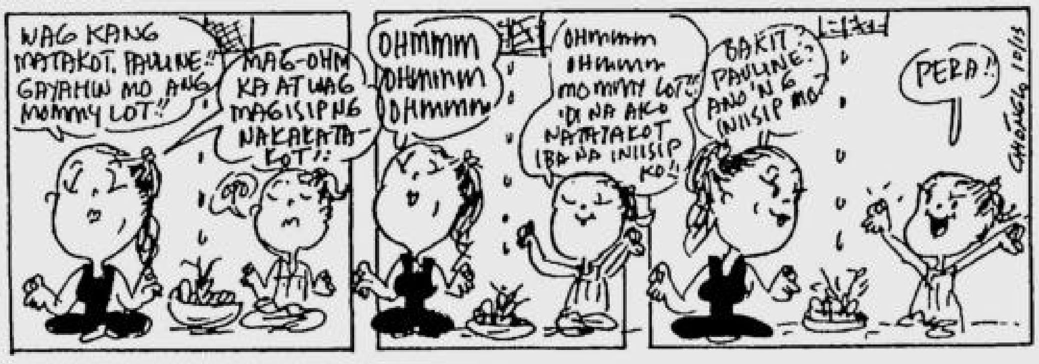
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


OK, PARA SA EPISODE NGAYON, BAGO KA MAGING DIVA E IDADAAN KA MUNA NAMIN SA MATINDING ¡ehem! PAGHAHANDA...
NAKA-SCHEDULE KA NA NGAYON PARA MAGPA-LIPOSUCTION, NOSE-LIFT, BREAST AUGMENTATION AT KUNG ANU-ANO PANG ETSE-BURETSE PARA MAGING KAGAYA MO NA AKO, ISANG GANAP NA DIVAAAA!♫♪
WOW!
KINABUKASAN...
ASTEEG!

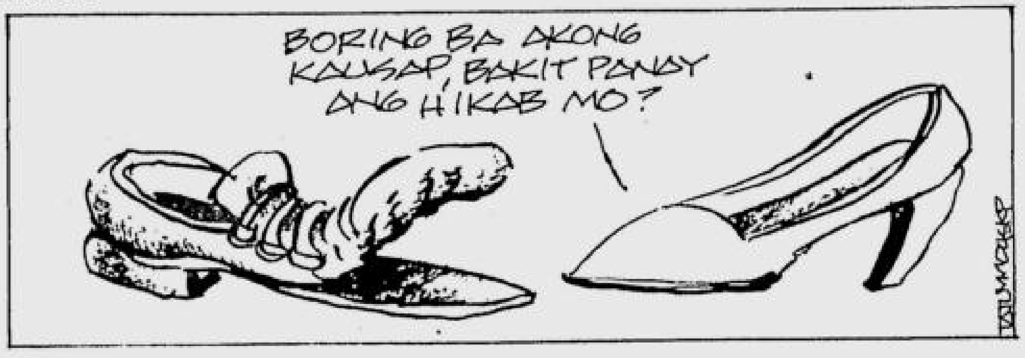
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


WAG KANG MATAKOT, PAULINE!! GAYAHIN MO ANG MOMMY LOT!!
MAG-OHM KA AT WAG MAGISIP NG NAKAKATAKOT!!
OHMMM OHMMM OHMMM
OHMMM OHMMM MOMMY LOT!! 'DI NA AKO NATATAKOT IBA NA INIISIP KO!!
BAKIT PAULINE? ANO'NG INIISIP MO?
PERA!!
CHIONGLO 10/13

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


BORING BA AKONG KAUSAP, BAKIT PANAY ANG HIKAB MO?

CATEGORY winners strike a pose with their masterpieces. Gladimir Echaverre ("Pink Passion"), John Herrera ("Twisted"), Magda Catherine Tuazon ("Wild On") and Michelle Dy ("Black")

Magda Catherine Tuazon wins in this year's Wild Vines fashionista tilt with her stunning Twiggy-inspired creation

VIC Josmar Floresca's satin fabric creation with shirred chiffon bodice, "Pure Allure," from the Peach Chardonnay collection

Take a bow, young designers!

Text by Cheryl Tiu
2bU! Correspondent
Photos by Raffy Lerma

EVERY year, Wild Vines allows young designers to showcase their masterpieces via the Fashionista Young Designers' Competition.

This year, 16 finalists bested nearly a hundred hopefuls during the preliminary on-the-spot design illustration to gain the privilege of presenting their creations at the Petron Megaplaza last Sept. 23. Their mission: to conjure up women's wear inspired by the Wild Vines flavors of Strawberry White Zinfandel, Peach Chardonnay, Raspberry Zinfandel and Blackberry Merlot.

The finalists came from schools such as the Cora Doloroso Career Center, DLSU-College of St. Benilde, Far Eastern University, Fashion Institute of the Philippines, Golden Hands Fashion and Arts School, La Salle College International, University of Sto. Tomas, University of the East, and the University of the Philippines.

They were each given P2,000 seed money to create their designs. The collection they unveiled ran the gamut from hot pink crystalline numbers to black chiffons and traditional satin dresses that echoed diverse eras, from the '50s to the present.

WILD Vines Fashionista 2004 overall winner Magda Catherine Tuazon with her Twiggy-inspired creation, "Wild On"

JOEY Santiago's "Wild Fire" creation from the Raspberry Zinfandel collection

But in the end, only one winner had to be declared. The judges, consisting of couturier Renee Salud, Reyes Haircutters' Les Reyes, designers Aureo Alonzo and Roy Gonzales, and Nancy Harel Associates' Nancy Harel, named the Magic Four, consisting of runners-up Gladimir Echaverre (Strawberry), Michelle Dy (Peach), John Herrera (Raspberry), and overall winner Magda Catherine Tuazon (Blackberry).

Tuazon won for her entry called "Wild On," a Twiggy-inspired spaghetti-strapped dress with a round chiffon and organza overlay. The designer won P20,000 cash and an exclusive apprenticeship with Salud.

The night had a last surprise when the latest Wild Vines Flavor called Blueberry Cabernet Sauvignon was unveiled. Needless to say, it was bottoms up for everyone involved in the successful event.

E-mail the author at chloe_dominique@yahoo.com

RASPBERRY Zinfandel category winner John Herrera's 60s-inspired "Twisted" chiffon cocktail dress

MARGARITA Isabel Cordova's Japanese-rock-inspired "Strawberry Twist" creation from the Strawberry White Zinfandel category

Coca-Cola SURE SHOT!

Grab COKE and score loads of instant prizes!
Win up to 1 Million Pesos!

Mechanics:
1. Buy a Coke 6-can Ref pack, 1.5L trio-pack or 500mL 4-pack and get a peel-off card.
2. Peel the cover and text the code to 2346 only through Globe.
3. Get a text reply to know if you've won any of these instant prizes.

Basketball shoes, "NBA at 50" DVDs and VCDs, Spalding basketballs, GLOBE P100 loads, NBA jerseys

4. OR, get a text reply with the letter C, O, K or E. Complete all 4 letters to form the word "COKE" and WIN 1 Million Pesos!
5. Claim your prizes at: The Coca-Cola Head Office, 4/F King's Court Bldg 2, 2129 Pasong Tamo Makati City.

New Coca-Cola Ref pack!

1 The new way to enjoy an ice cold Coke at home
2 Grab a can and let it roll!
3 Refrigerate and Enjoy!

Prizes courtesy of:
Globe SPALDING OLYMPIC VILLAGE

PROMO PERIOD: August 16 - October 31, 2004
Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2004

Songs in the Keys of life

From page E1

Was it during your collaboration with your manager, Clive Davis, that it all began?

My manager discovered me, his name is Jeff Robinson—that was after things went sour with me with Columbia. That was when we were introduced to Clive Davis, and that was when the magic began because everything was all in order at that point.

What do you think of this whole "American Idol" phenomenon and how singers are being discovered nowadays?

I think it's two-fold. In some ways, it's fantastic; it's great that people have the opportunity to be heard in such a major way. On the other hand, I feel that if it's only to be on TV so it can happen for you quickly—that kind of defeats the purpose of the passion of what music is all about. Some guys do it anywhere, even at the nastiest clubs because you love it that much that you don't care what happens and you do your thing and create your music.

Your influences range from Mozart, Bach to '60s and '70s music. Did you foresee the kind of effect that your music would have on the audience?

I produce and write my own music and I create the music that is inside of me. It just happens to be that music from the '60s and '70s is the type of music that I relate to. It feels good, I feel people would stand back—they had something real to talk about, they had something that really represented something. They weren't just in it for the money. In fact they made no money and they still did the music. I just really think it was much pure. So I am very attracted to it. I also feel like I was alive then and now I am reincarnated. That's another reason because that's a part of me.

How do you keep it real? How do you keep the vibe?

It is really important to me to be around good people. I need to know that it's positive, good, real, kind humans that are around me. I really don't care to be around phonies, I don't care to be around the fakes—the ones who are just around because they think they can get something of it, or that things are good right now. I have with me a family that I have known since I was four years old and we work together now. So it keeps me grounded on what's real and important in life.

How was it like growing up?

I was raised in a household that didn't have much. My mother had to work real hard. I saw that in my whole life and I don't take that for granted now. I just feel like—you don't change. You are who you are. If you are a nasty, messed-up person, then you're just gonna be a nasty, messed-up person. I am who I am. And I really want to be a good person—that's what I strive to be.

What were you like in school?

I was always ahead of myself when I was younger, because I was always around older people—people I grew up with, they just happened to be older, so I was just looking for more than the kind of annoying high-school banter. I really didn't want to be part of it. So I also took up a little more studies so I could graduate high school quite early. I worked really hard, but I was also was very, uh, charming. (laughs)

You were never shy?

I don't really remember being very shy. I was kinda quiet. I started getting loud when I left school. In school I was just trying to do what I had to do to get out of there, but definitely most of the teachers loved me, so that we could just all have a good relationship. School and life are less about being perfect and more about being able to communicate and talk.

So even if you can't exactly get everything perfect, you can't get the best grades in the whole world, or you may not be able to take to the work so perfectly or whatever, but if you can communicate with the people and your teachers and make them understand what you're thinking and (they can) sympathize with you and understand—not only does that help you learn but it just helps you get through life a little bit easier.

So you were always ready to take up challenges.

I had my little clique—it was six of us and we had our little handshakes and our little calls in the hallway and we go off to lunch and stuff like that. But yeah, I was always ready for the next stage.

You had no insecurities whatsoever?

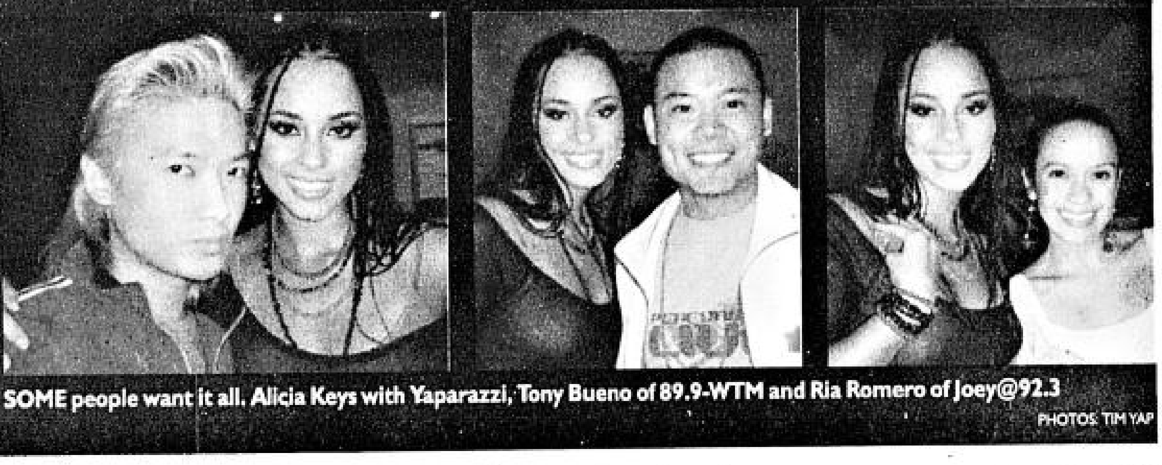
Growing up, I always felt I had big feet. A guy friend of mine called me "Big Foot! Big Foot!" So I became so conscious of my feet.

How do you handle criticism and how do you keep the fire burning?

I really don't care about criticism. I really don't live my life for other people. First things first. I'm just making sure making sure that I'm being honest with myself. That's the most important thing for me—because you get caught up in trying to please everybody else—please your family, please your friends, whatever. When you're trying to please everyone else, you lose sight of what you want, and what you think and what you feel and then it gets really dangerous.

If you don't get it, then it's not for you to get.

ELECTRIFYING performance. She left Manila begging for more.



SOME people want it all. Alicia Keys with Yaparazzi, Tony Bueno of 89.9-WTM and Ria Romero of Joey@92.3

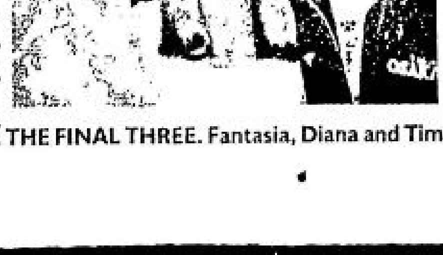
PHOTOS: TIM YAP

American Idols, lah!

YAPARAZZI was in Singapore last week to check out the American Idols at the last leg of their 50 city tour, with the Lion City as their last stop, the only city outside the US where the idols performed.

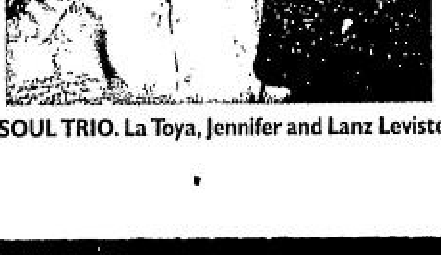
While in Singapore, the performers went to visit the "Singapore Idol," the Merlion, before hopping over to the Singapore Indoor Stadium, where they performed before a packed audience of Asian fans crazy for Fantasia, Diana, Jasmine, La Toya, George, Jon Peter and Jennifer. *Tim Yap*

THE AMERICAN Idols with the Singapore icon, The Merlion. From left: George Huff, Jon Peter Lewis, La Toya London, Diana DeGarmo, Jasmine Trias and Jennifer Hudson with beauties from the Lion City



THE FINAL THREE. Fantasia, Diana and Tim

PHOTOS TIM YAP



SOUL TRIO. La Toya, Jennifer and Lanz Leviste

SINGAPORE SWING! American Idols on a Bum Boat ride along the Singapore River. The Fullerton Hotel can be seen on the left. (Front, from left) Diana Degarmo, Jasmine Trias, George Huff; (back) Jennifer Hudson, La Toya London, Jon Peter Lewis

Underwater angels

From page E8

gently and responsibly.

Getting ready

Dong Vergara, our dive instructor and dive organizer, led the dive. After gearing up, each one of us was given a mesh bag to put the collected litter in, and a pair of gloves for protection. Now we were ready.

I teamed up with my dive buddy, Gary Macalintal. While we were removing trash underwater, I kept in mind that I should minimize my effect on the aquatic realm. I tried to maintain my buoyancy by not touching the sea floor and keeping my hands and body off the reef as much as I could (well, sometimes I bumped on corals, but I didn't mean to do that. Swear!), and secure all my dangling equipment by clipping them to my side.

Come to think of it, perhaps it would be a good habit if every diver made an objective of picking up at least two pieces of underwater debris every time he or she went underwater, and not just during the annual cleanup. Imagine its effect on the marine sanctuaries.

As we were about to go up the water after our dive, I noticed my right silver earring missing. I'd forgotten to take it off before we went under. My earring is not considered rubbish, but I hope a fish doesn't choke on it!

After gathering the rubbish (and posing for pictures with it), it was now time to itemize and identify our catch on shore. Yes, it's also essential to know who's trashing the ocean and waterways. Identifying specific polluters can help stop pollution at its source.

Debris removal is, unfortunately, temporary. What is more important is collecting data to help solve pollution problems. The information on the data cards we did will be used to help community groups and government agencies develop solutions to problems associated with coastal and water-borne pollution.

Slow and deliberate

Most of the trash we gathered underwater were plastic bags. Some of them were already stuck to the corals, which posed a problem. Rubbish removal should be slow and deliberate. Divers shouldn't just rip the plastic and further harm the coral reefs, so we had to do it really carefully.

Other items we collected were sanitary napkins, beverage cans, diapers, hair spray, a kid's shoe, cup noodles, plastic bottles and a Starbucks plastic cup named for a certain Candice, which had gone a long way, indeed, to end up in a dive site.

Young people can also take part in these dives, since diving is for all ages—as long as they are comfortable in the water, are mentally and physically fit, and at least know how to swim (they don't have to be experts, since they'll float once they wear their wetsuits).

Non-professional divers first have to take an introductory course on recreational diving (intro dive). For as low as P1,500, they will be taught the basics of diving by an accredited scuba dive instructor in one of the dive resorts in Anilao. Equipment can be rented at the resort.

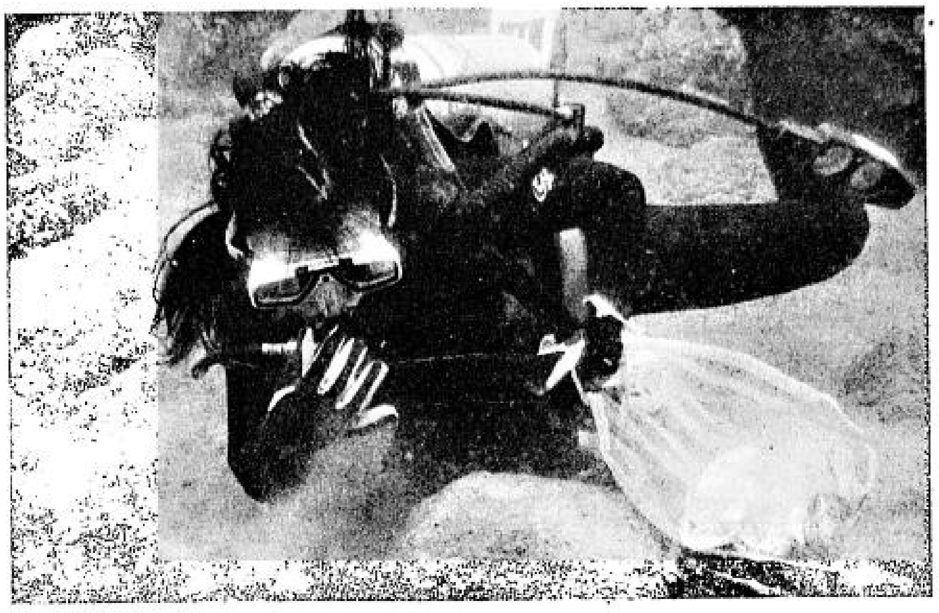
It's really easy, I tell you. You'd be thrilled once you start breathing underwater and experience swimming with colorful fish and corals that you normally only get to see in aquariums.

Diving is more fun if you have a dive buddy with you to share your diving experiences (and jitters). If you want to go pro, you can enroll in open water diver classes, so you can be a licensed professional diver like me.

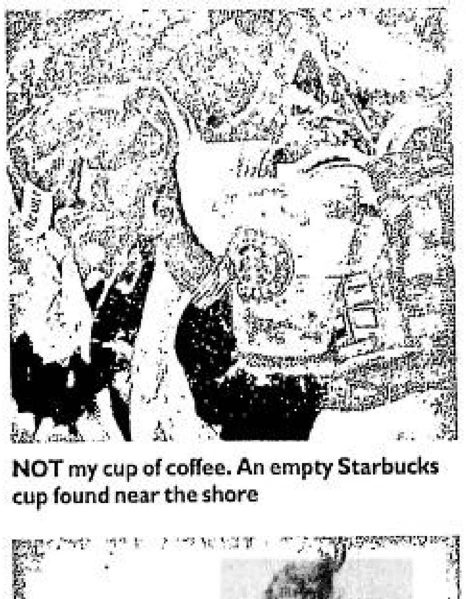
Email the author at inqsider@yahoo.com

We publish stories about young people and groups who are trying to make a difference. Submit articles or send us suggestions at ls_2bu@inquirer.com.ph. Because age is not a hindrance, it's a springboard for change.

SORTING THEM OUT. The author itemizing the collected rubbish with divemaster Vince (left) and dive instructor Dong



GOOD thing we couldn't smell the trash down there.



NOT my cup of coffee. An empty Starbucks cup found near the shore

LOADING the trash in the mesh bag

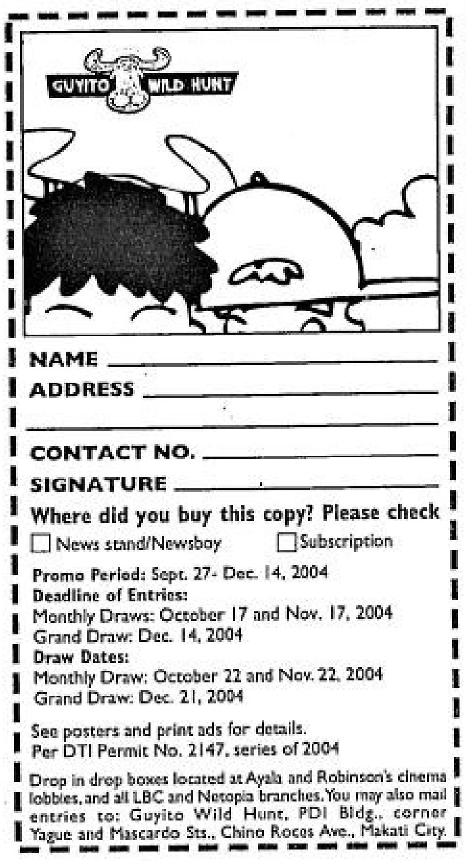
PHILIPS
YOUR CRAZIEST IDEA COULD MAKE YOU FAMOUS!
NATIONAL FINALS
OCTOBER 16, 2004
GLORIETTA 4, CINEMA LOBBY,
AYALA CENTER, MAKATI CITY
MTV MUSIC TELEVISION
WHATEVER THINGS!
SHOW HOST CONTEST
PLEASE DO NOT TRY THIS AT HOME!
WWW.THINGSTODOYOURTHING.COM
ALWAYS WANTED TO SCALE THE DIZZY HEIGHT OF FAME? HERE'S YOUR CHANCE!
DO YOUR CRAZY THING WITH THESE THINGS TO WIN!

Enter the 'MTV/Philips WHATEVERTHINGS Show Host Contest' now. "Wow" us with your craziest, most off the wall "whatever" idea. And if it knocks us off our seats, you'll get to compete with other crazy folks in the national finals on October 16, 2004 at the Glorietta 4, Cinema lobby, Ayala Center, Makati City. If you win, you could end up at the regional finals in China. Beat out your competitors as the craziest one in Asia and you'll team up with Edison Chen (yes!) to host the MTV Whatever Things programme. What are you waiting for? Let's do this thing!

WEBSITE : www.mtvasia.com EMAIL : whateverthings@mtv-asia.com SNAIL MAIL : MTV WhateverThings Show Host Contest, 1696 Makati Central Post Office, 1256 Makati City, Philippines.

Underwater angels

I joined a group of recreational divers to volunteer for the recent 19th International Coastal Clean-up Day, and what a dive it was!

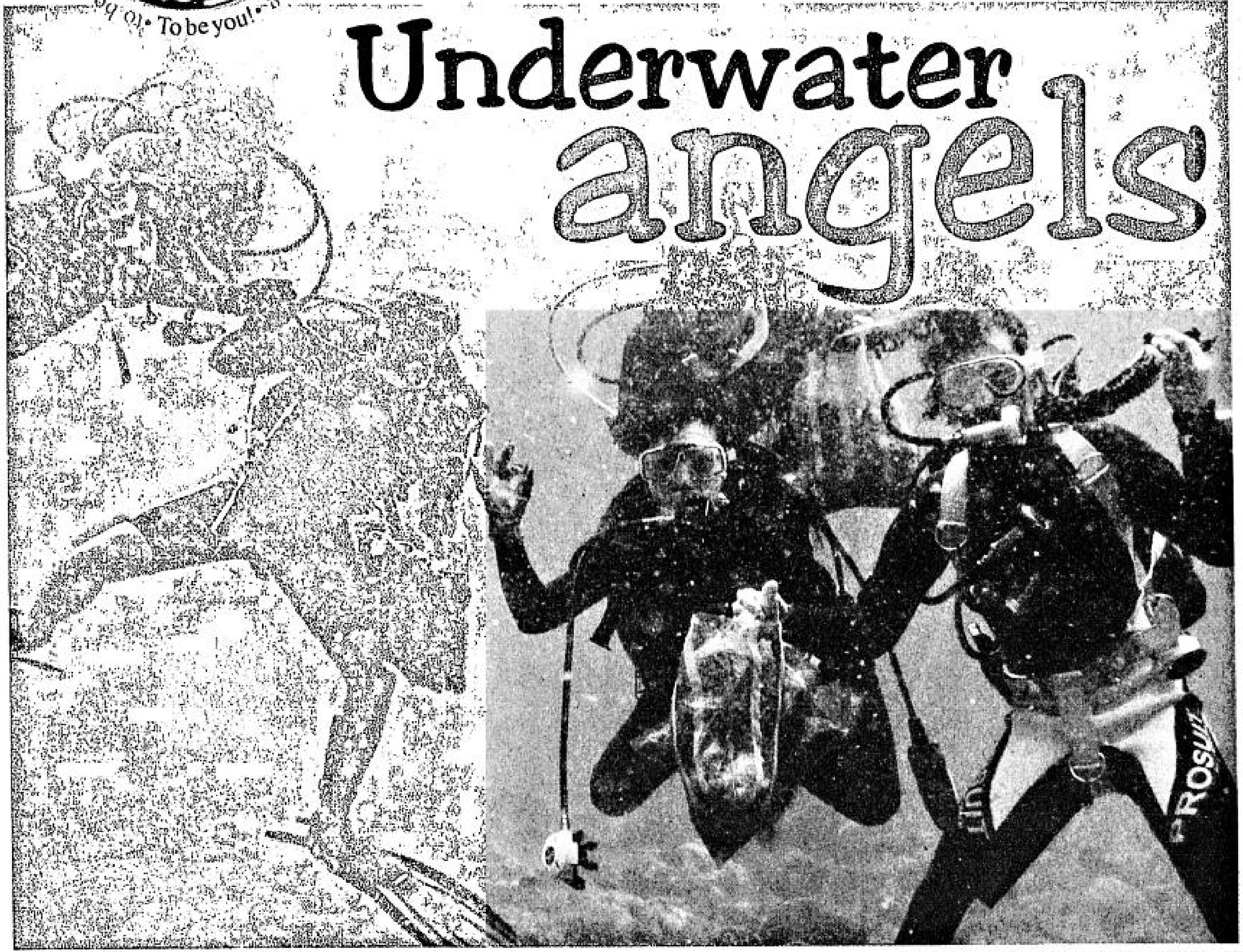


NAME ____
ADDRESS ____
____
CONTACT NO. ____
SIGNATURE ____
Where did you buy this copy? Please check
☐ News stand/Newsboy ☐ Subscription

Promo Period: Sept. 27- Dec. 14, 2004
Deadline of Entries:
Monthly Draws: October 17 and Nov. 17, 2004
Grand Draw: Dec. 14, 2004
Draw Dates:
Monthly Draw: October 22 and Nov. 22, 2004
Grand Draw: Dec. 21, 2004

See posters and print ads for details.
Per DTI Permit No. 2147, series of 2004

Drop in drop boxes located at Ayala and Robinson's cinema lobbies, and all LBC and Netopia branches. You may also mail entries to: Guyito Wild Hunt, PDI Bldg., corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Chino Roces Ave., Makati City.



WE'RE A-OK! Having fun cleaning up the waters of Anilao

Text by Anne Luisa Villarico
Photos by Ronald Abad

THE SIGHT of a plastic bag floating in the waters was a prize catch for me. I swam towards it and bagged the trash in my mesh bag. For a weekend, I was a "garbage collector"—underwater, that is.

This was a fun dive where aquatic sightseeing was my second objective. Instead, I joined a group of recreational divers to volunteer for the recent 19th International Coastal Clean-up Day.

Since I am already a certified Padi open water diver, I signed up for the activity to help haul trash in the shores and waters of Anilao, Batangas, a popular dive spot. More than the excitement of being underwater and seeing colorful fish, I thought this was my chance to do something for Mother Nature.

Our group, Waterworld Sports Divers, was billeted at the Villa Ligaya Dive Resort. Every dive resort in Anilao took part in the event, and divers are encouraged to join the annual activity. In a way, it's also a chance for us to silence the voices of those who portray divers as a significant cause of global reef destruction.

On our pre-dive, we were briefed on what specific rubbish to get. The items should be human-made debris, trash and litter that harm the environment and wildlife, threaten human health and safety, cause communities to lose money and just look bad.

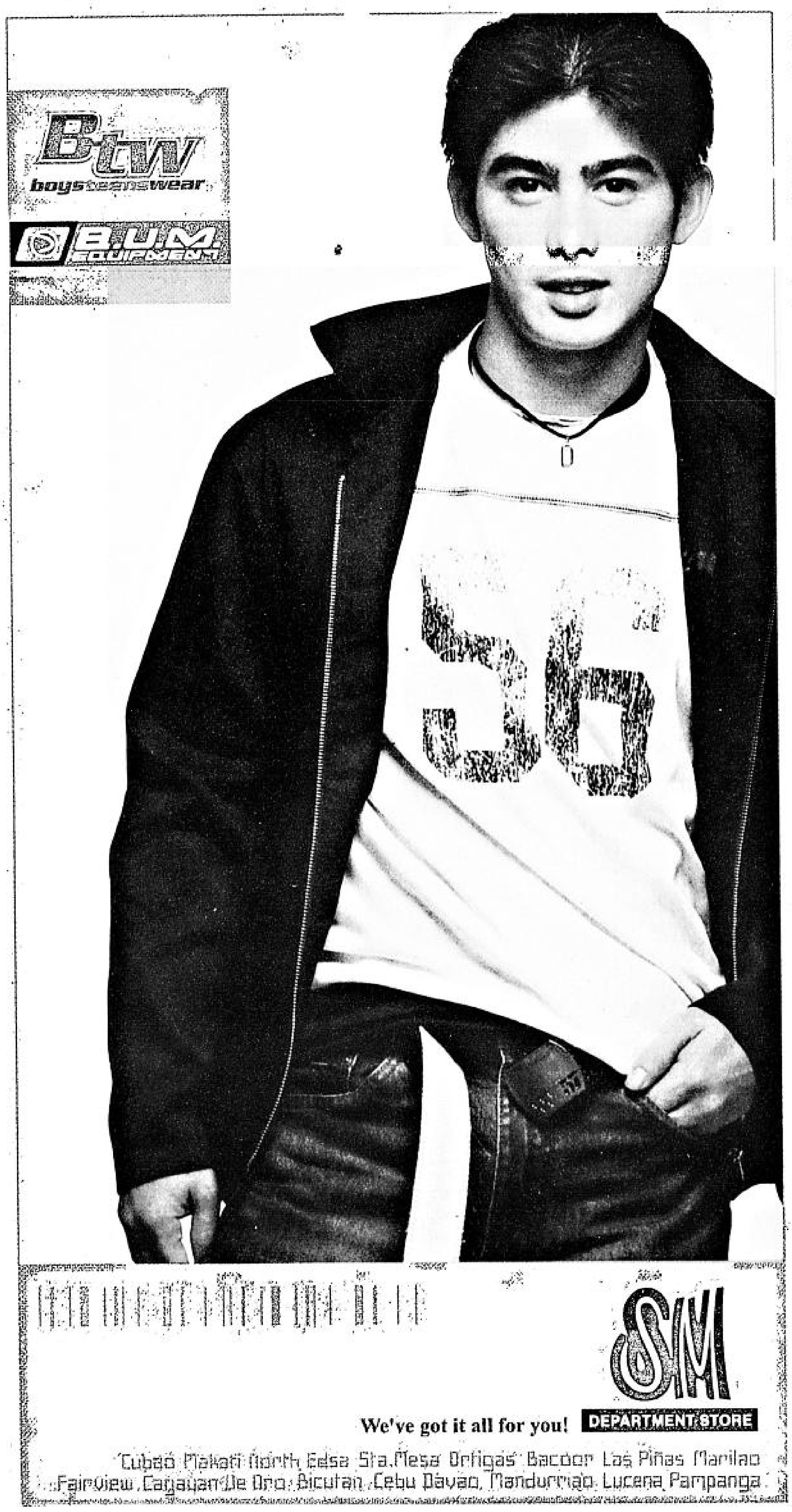
Certainly, neither a shipwreck nor a submerged rubber tire already home to aquatic life counted as trash. Divers should know what to take and what not to take. Removing underwater debris should also be done intelli-

UNDERWATER/ E7

SLOWLY removing plastic that got stuck in the corals

TRASH like these not only harm underwater ecosystems but also damage human communities in many ways.

UNITED DIVERS FOR A CAUSE. There's a dentist, military pilot, engineer, businessman and a doctor in our group.



We've got it all for you! DEPARTMENT STORE

Cubao Makati North Edsa Sta.Mesa Ortigas Bacoor Las Piñas Marilao Fairview Cagayan De Oro Bicutan Cebu Davao Mandurriao Lucena Pampanga

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

ENTERTAINMENT Metro

Editor Louie C. Camino

Text us your feedback: inquirer ent name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Acoustic concert for cancer kids

By Peachy Vibal-Guioguio
Contributor

SHOW TIME

JIMMY Bondoc recalls that his first concert was mounted for a friend, a classmate at the Ateneo, who had a brain tumor.

The friend, Allan Abad, has since died, but the memory of that show continues to reinforce the 28-year-old's philosophy as a singer.

"Singing is both an end and a means to an end," he says. An end, he explains, because when he performs, "it makes me happy," and a means to an end because it opens up people's hearts.

And so Bondoc agreed to do "Acoustic Nite for Kythe," a show that will benefit pediatric cancer patients. Set on Oct. 18, 8 p.m., at Dish in the ABS-CBN compound, Quezon City, the fund-raising concert also headlines three other popular "acoustic" singing stars like Bondoc—Nyoy Volante, Nina and Paolo Santos.

The best time

"Music disarms people," Bondoc says. "And when this happens, it is the best time to talk to them about your ideas and your causes."

The show's beneficiaries are wards of Kythe Foundation, which takes its name from the Scottish word that means "healing through simple loving, sharing and togetherness." The foundation aims to provide psychosocial support to the young cancer patients and their families, and increase awareness of pediatric oncology.

At the time of that memorable first gig, Bondoc was in fourth year high school and playing in a band called Strings and Skins. The audience consisted of 2,000 people, mostly Ateneo students.

Today, his name and his music are known to tens of thousands more. He is a best-selling artist of BMG Records. His hit single, "Let Me Be the One," remained on top of the local charts for seven consecutive weeks.

Not to say that the cause-espousing Bondoc is the sullen sort. "I've always thought that the most attractive person is one who can be both funny and serious, deep and shallow, happy and sad—in short, someone who can swing through the spectrum of human emotion," Jimmy says. "A concert should bring out these [states of mind] and make people experience them."

First for Paolo

Paolo Santos, Bondoc's batchmate in Ateneo, first interacted with the Kythe kids during the publicity pictorial.

"Seeing how little it takes to make them happy," Santos says, "I was inspired to write a song for them." He hopes to finish the song in time for inclusion in his yet untitled second album, slated for release next month.

The concert is made all the more special, he says, by the fact that "this is my first time to do something like this."

As it is, Santos notes, there is another song—one that he wrote in 1997—that just as well describes how he feels about his little new friends. "'Beside You,'" he says, is a song "about being there for someone… and assuring this person that, no matter how bad the world seems to be treating you, there are people who will always be around, *beside you*, to see you through."

This song will also be included in Santos' second album.

Tina Puno, Kythe Childlife projects specialist and the organizer of the concert, says she is happy, to say the least, that the four singers gave no conditions for their participation in next week's show: "Kythe and the children will be forever grateful."

> 'No matter how bad the world is treating you, there are people who will always be around, *beside you*, to see you through,' says Paolo's song

FLYING KYTHE. Singers (from left) Jimmy Bondoc, Nina, Nyoy Volante and Paolo Santos play with the children of Kythe, which means "healing through loving"

FORBIDDEN LOVE. Takeshi Kaneshiro and Zhang Ziyi figure in a star-crossed affair

Romeo, Juliet and kung fu

REVIEW

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

ONCE again, director Zhang Yimou explores timeless themes and conflicts, albeit steeped in romance and fantasy, with "House of Flying Daggers."

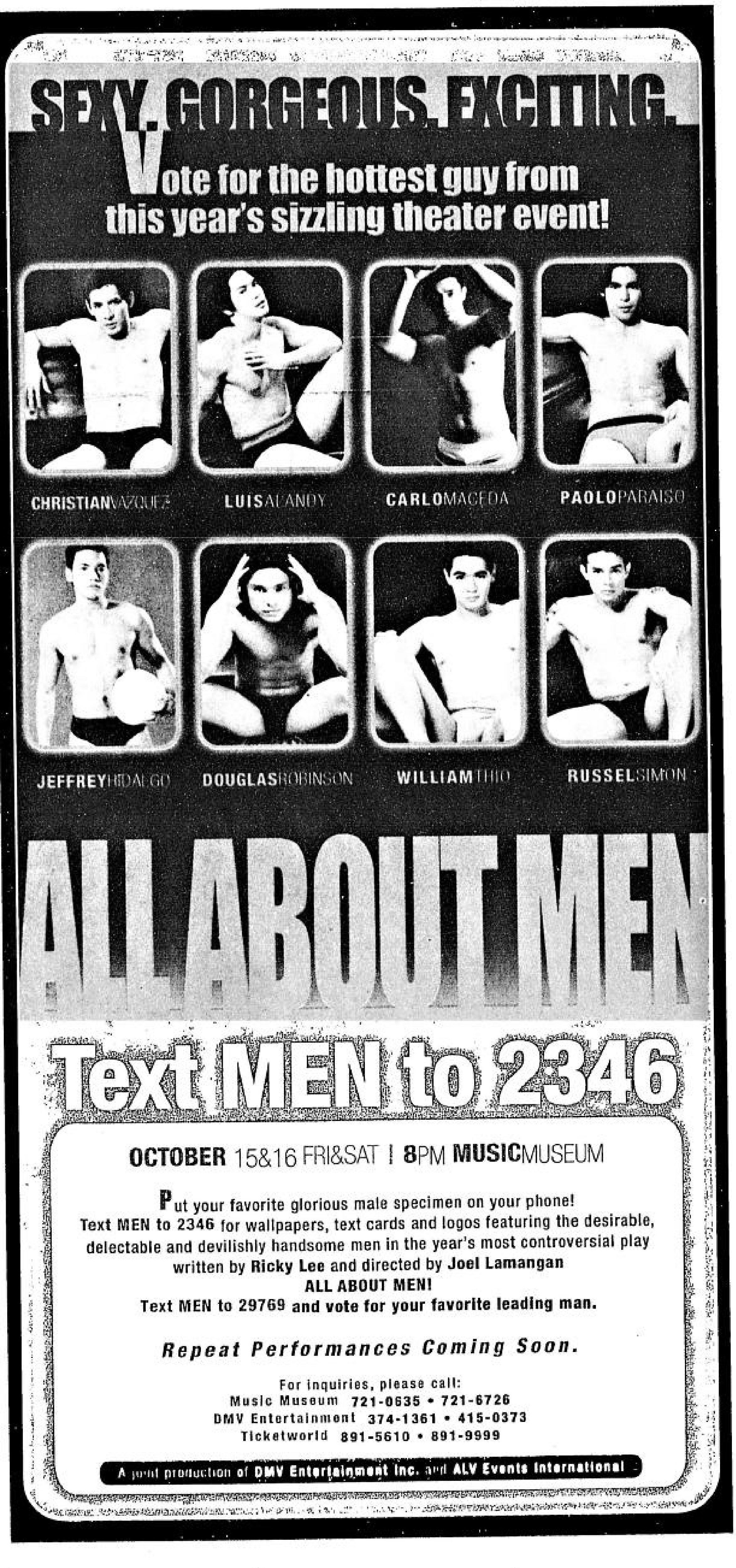
Set in chaotic 859 A.D., the toned-down but still earth-shaking martial arts flick is Zhang's follow-up to his acclaimed "Hero," a sweeping epic about ancient China's political power struggles which was nominated for an Oscar last year in the Best Foreign Language Film category.

The House is a secret organization that seeks to hasten the end of the emperor's crumbling hold on the land by fighting corruption in the name of the common man. Flying Daggers refers to the group's weapons of choice. As much for the warriors' fighting style—how deftly they throw the knives around!—as for their Robin Hood image, the people have come to respect them.

Understandably, the local deputies are bent on stopping the subversives. Captains Jin (Takeshi Kaneshiro) and Leo (Andy Lau) investigate rumors of rebel elements gathered in a nearby brothel, where a blind but exceptionally graceful dancing courtesan named Mei (Zhang Ziyi) is an attraction. She is suspected of being connected with the renegades. Jin pretends to be a drunken customer and harasses Mei; Leo pretends to arrest him and the blind girl.

Leo proceeds to test Mei's dancing skills in

ROMEO/A2-4



OCTOBER 15&16 FRI&SAT | 8PM MUSICMUSEUM

Put your favorite glorious male specimen on your phone!
Text MEN to 2346 for wallpapers, text cards and logos featuring the desirable, delectable and devilishly handsome men in the year's most controversial play written by Ricky Lee and directed by Joel Lamangan
ALL ABOUT MEN!
Text MEN to 29769 and vote for your favorite leading man.

Repeat Performances Coming Soon.

For inquiries, please call:
Music Museum 721-0635 • 721-6726
DMV Entertainment 374-1361 • 415-0373
Ticketworld 891-5610 • 891-9999

A joint production of DMV Entertainment Inc. and ALV Events International

SeeMall!

AYALA CINEMAS THX

Movies/schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729-7777

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4		GB3 GREENBELT 3	ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
THX 1 LADDER 49	1 LADDER 49	1 RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE	5 SHARK TALE	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 1 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW	1 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW
2 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW	2 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW	2 OPEN WATER	6 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 2 LADDER 49	2 RAISING HELEN
3 SHARK TALE	3 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 3 LADDER 49	7 THREE	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	3 FAHRENHEIT 9/11
4 WIMBLEDON	4 SHARK TALE	4 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 WIMBLEDON	4 GODSEND
5 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS				GUARANTEED SEATS 5 SHARK TALE	5 SHARK TALE

GB1 GREENBELT 1
1 SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL For inquiries, call 526-1448
2 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW

At the Activity Center

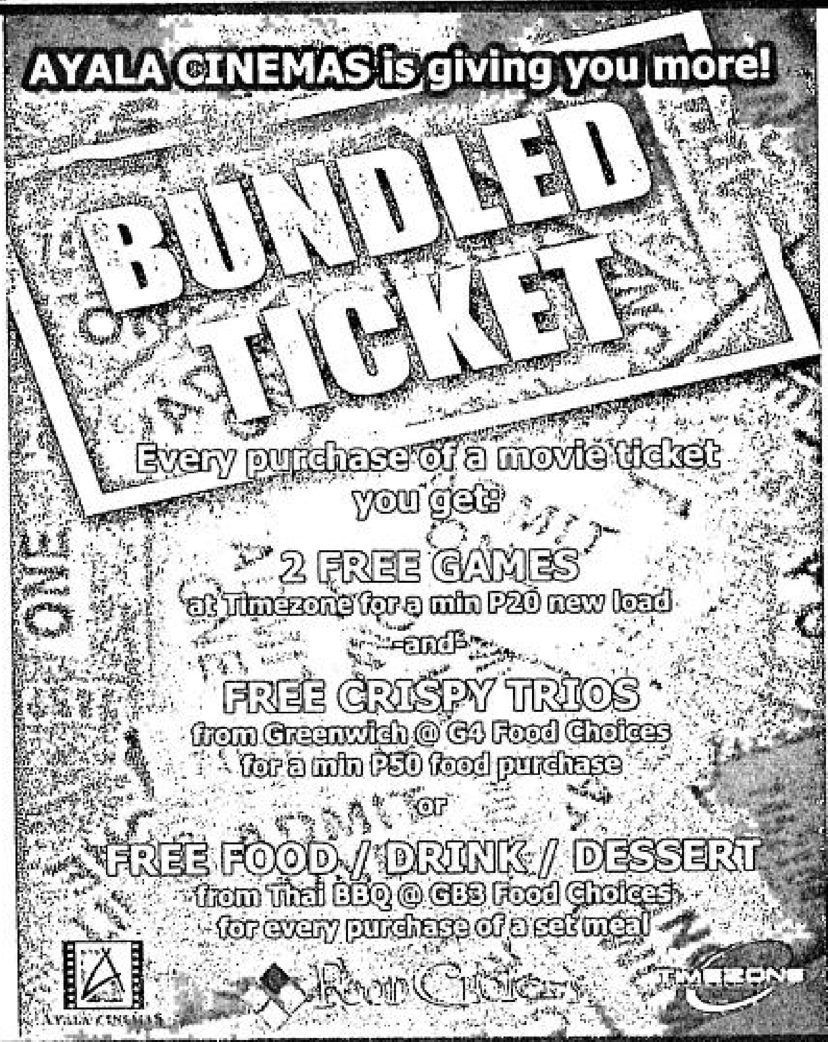
GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
OVERSEAS KOREAN TRADERS ASSOCIATION EXHIBIT October 11 to 13, 2004	ANSON'S EXHIBIT October 4 to 17, 2004	BPI AUTOMADNESS OPENING CEREMONIES October 14, 2004

ENTERTAINMENT LIVE!

GREENBELT 2	GREENBELT 3
GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES EVERY THURSDAYS TO SUNDAYS (7-10pm) PIDO (Thu), TAKE ONE (Fri), THOR (Sat)	SPANISH FESTIVAL: LETRAS Y FIGURAS PAINTING EXHIBIT October 8 to 15, Greenbelt 3 Lobby

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents PINOCCHIO
at REP's GLOBE THEATER - August 7 to December 12, 2004

EXPO
TRADE HALL FOR EXHIBITS, EVENTS AND MORE!
For inquiries and bookings, please call 750-4982 to 84



AYALA CINEMAS is giving you more!

BUNDLED TICKET

Every purchase of a movie ticket you get:

2 FREE GAMES
at Timezone for a min P20 new load

-and-

FREE CRISPY TRIOS
from Greenwich @ G4 Food Choices
for a min P50 food purchase

or

FREE FOOD / DRINK / DESSERT
from Thai BBQ @ GB3 Food Choices
for every purchase of a set meal

Internationally acclaimed director ZHANG YIMOU takes you to the world of love, romance & deception in

十面埋伏

HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
PHOTO EXHIBIT

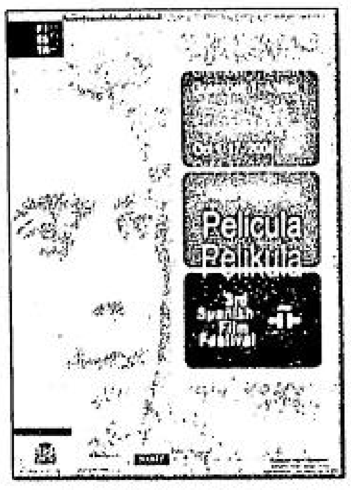
Now open to the public at
the Glorietta 4 cinema lobby

Movie opens tomorrow at Ayala Cinemas

MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13

AYALA CINEMAS
AYALA MALLS LoveMall!

FROM THE PRODUCER OF "CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON" AND "HERO"



ArtFilm

Ayala Cinemas
proudly hosts

Pelicula Pelikula 2004
The 3rd Spanish Film Festival

1-17 October
Greenbelt 1 Artfilm

Instituto Cervantes

For inquiries, please call 526 1448

CUSTOMER SERVICE TEXT HOTLINE: 0917-6095900 • CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE: Glorietta - 752-7272; from 10am to 8pm • Greenbelt - 757-4853; from 11am to 12mn • Alabang Town Center - 842-2782; from 10am to 8pm Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231-5342 loc 324 • AYALA CINEMA LINKS: For screening times call 729-7777. Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart). Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

AYALA CENTER
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
AYALA CENTER CEBU
LoveMall!

SM CINEMA movietime

EVERY HERO HAS A DESTINY.
JOAQUIN PHOENIX
JOHN TRAVOLTA
LADDER 49
moviepickoftheWeek

I what to watch I

THE PODIUM CINEMA

For Seat Reservation, call 633 8976
LATE NIGHT SCREENING
DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS

1 LADDER 49

2 THE HOUSE OF THE FLYING DAGGERS

HOUSE OF THE FLYING DAGGERS MTRCB Rating: PG 13

SM City Bicutan Cinema 2
SM City Fairview Cinema 2
SM City Tutuban Cinema 2
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 2
SM City Southmall Cinema 2
SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 2
SM City Manila Cinema 2
SM City North Edsa Cinema 2
SM Megamall Cinema 2

LADDER 49 MTRCB Rating: PG 13

SM City Manila Cinema 1
SM City North Edsa Cinema 1
SM Megamall Cinema 1
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 1
SM City Southmall Cinema 1
SM City Tutuban Cinema 1
SM City Fairview Cinema 1
SM City Bicutan Cinema 1
SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 1

OPEN WATER MTRCB Rating: PG 13

SM Fairview Cinema 7
SM Megamall Cinema 7
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 7
SM City Southmall Cinema 7
SM City Manila Cinema 7
SM City North Edsa Cinema 6

THE PUNISHER MTRCB Rating: R 13

SM City Manila Cinema 6
SM Megamall Cinema 6
SM City Southmall Cinema 6
SM City Fairview Cinema 6
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 6

MTRCB Rating: R 13 RESIDENT EVIL

SM City Fairview Cinema 9
SM City Bicutan Cinema 4
SM City North EDSA Cinema 7
SM Southmall Cinema 9
SM City Manila Cinema 9
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 9

SHARK TALE MTRCB Rating: G

SM City Manila Cinema 5
SM City North Edsa Cinema 5
SM Megamall Cinema 5
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 5
SM City Southmall Cinema 5
SM Fairview Cinema 5
SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 4

SKY CAPTAIN AND THE WORLD OF TOMMOROW SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING

SM Fairview Cinema 3
SM City Tututban Cinema 3
SM City Bicutan Cinema 3
SM City North EDSA Cinema 3
SM Southmall Cinema 3
SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 3
SM City Manila Cinema 3
SM Megamall Cinema 3
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 3

THREE MTRCB Rating: R 13

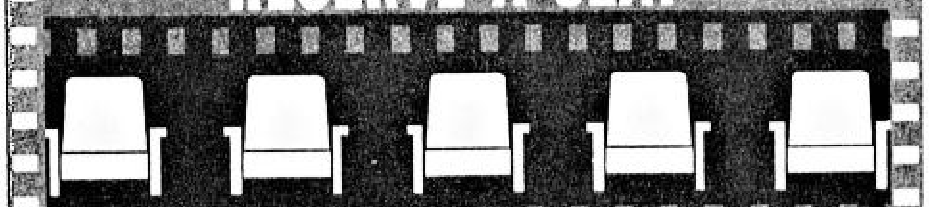
SM City Manila Cinema 4
SM Megamall Cinema 4
SM City North EDSA Cinema 4
SM Southmall Cinema 4
SM Fairview Cinema 4
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 4

WIMBLEDON SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING

SM City Fairview Cinema 8
SM City Southmall Cinema 8
SM City Manila Cinema 8
SM Megamall Cinema 8
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 8

Movies are subject to change without prior notice • For complete movie schedule, visit *www.smcinema.com*

RESERVE-A-SEAT



Call 636-6800
for SM Megamall Cinema 1

SM CINEMA

BUTCH Jimenez

'Business Matters' turns 10

"BUSINESS Matters," a highly regarded radio program over FM station dzFE, celebrates its 10th anniversary on Saturday, Oct. 16 with a speech fest called "Light and Sounds," featuring a stellar cast of outstanding Filipinos from business, academe, government and the private sector who will share their personal success stories about surviving and winning in these critical times.

Starting as a five-minute daily radio program, "Business Matters" has grown into a multi-sectoral organization headed by the popular author and lecturer Francis J. Kong.

The celebration will be held at Crossroads 77 located on Mother Ignacia Avenue corner Scout Reyes Street in Quezon City, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Heading the list of the outstanding Filipinos is PLDT senior vice president and TOYM awardee Butch Jimenez whose achievements include producing the box-office hits "Jose Rizal" and "Muro Ami," both directed by Marilou Diaz-Abaya and starring Cesar Montano.

Jimenez was also chosen by the University of the Philippines in 2003 as its youngest commencement speaker ever. His speech, entitled "What's Better Than...?," made the rounds of Internet postings and several publications here and in other parts of the world.

The other inspirational speakers in "Light and Sounds" include Patricia Evangelista from UP who bested 59 debaters around the world to win as best speaker in the 2004 International Public Speaking competition in London last May; Dr. Josette Biyo of Iloilo, who won the Intel Excellence in Teaching award in the United States where she won over 4,000 candidates from all over the globe, and who has a minor planet named after her by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology;

Roselle Ambubuyog, the visually-impaired summa cum laude graduate and 2001 class valedictorian of the Ateneo de Manila University; Sen. Francis Pangilinan, one of the country's youngest and most progressive legislators; and Francis Kong, host of the daily program "Business Matters" on dzFE.

For inquiries and ticket reservations, call Jenny Ecleo at 374-5320, 3745399 or (0920)827-0876.

Friday specials at Robinsons

SHOW TIME

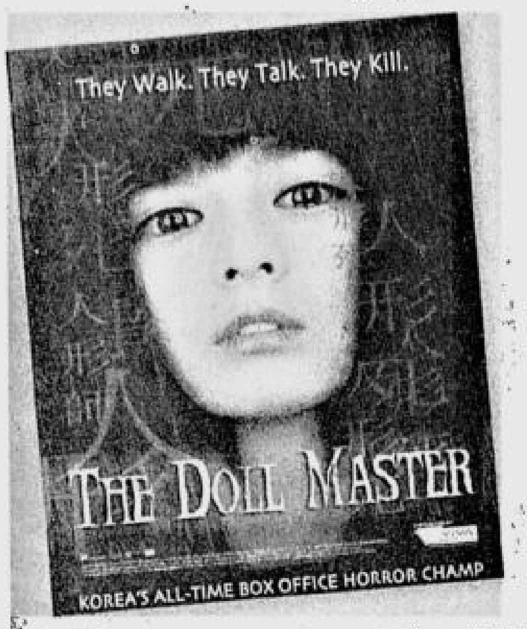
EAST WING, the lifestyle hub at Robinsons Galleria, celebrates its first anniversary with a month-long festival of musical performances featuring various artists on all Fridays of October.

Instrumentalists from the Bernie Pasamba Music Consultancy perform on Oct. 15 and 22.

The young musical talents who play the flute, saxophone, piano, guitar and violin are members of the former Manila Chamber Orchestra and have performed with world-renowned artists like the great tenor Luciano Pavarotti, jazz artist David Benoit and singers Barry Manilow and Stevie Wonder.

Acoustic recording artist Emily Rey caps the special musical series on Oct. 29.

Shows are from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the first level of East Wing at Robinsons Galleria.


They Walk. They Talk. They Kill.
THE DOLL MASTER
KOREA'S ALL-TIME BOX OFFICE HORROR CHAMP

CINEMAS
WAVE 89.1

DOLL MASTER SEARCH
Dress Up Your Doll Contest & Exhibit
October 19 to 26, 2004

A contest to the best dressed doll shall be conducted. Entries shall be exhibited at Robinsons Movieworld Galleria cinema lobby

ADVANCE SCREENING
October 19, 2004 8 • 7:30PM
Robinson Movieworld Cinema 6

Tune in to Wave 89.1 and get a chance to win FREE movie invites.

*Awarding of winners for Doll Master Search : Dress Up Your Doll Contest shall be announced before the Movie.

ER 20

star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND

starmall EDSA - SHAW
Tel. No. 726.81.50
Ladder 49
House of Flying Daggers
Sky Captain

METROPOLIS ALABANG star
Tel. No. 850.42.85
Resident Evil 2
Punisher
Sky Captain
Feng Shui
House of Flying Daggers
Ladder 49

starmall LAS PINAS
Tel. No. 873.50.04
Sharks Tale
Reserved

FREE! Cinema Pass
For every 3 tickets you buy at any Star Group of Cinemas
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 1523 SERIES OF 2004

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX

3	Dolby	SKY CAPTAIN 10:20 am 1:00 pm 3:40 pm 6:20 pm 9:00 pm
4	SDDS	LADDER 49 10:20 am 1:00 pm 3:40 pm 6:20 pm 9:00 pm
5	dts	FLYING DAGGERS 12:35 pm 3:20 pm 6:05 pm 8:50 pm
6	Dolby	SHARK TALE 12:10 pm 2:20 pm 4:30 pm 6:40 pm 8:55 pm
7	Dolby	FENG SHUI 11:35 pm 1:55 pm 4:15 pm 6:35 pm 8:55 pm

ARANETA COLISEUM

Oct 13	SAN MIGUEL vs GINEBRA 7:20 pm
Oct 16	JASMINE TRIAS CONCERT
Oct 17	ALASKA vs FEDEX 6:30 pm
Oct 20	SAN MIGUEL vs SHELL 7:20 pm
Oct 24	GINEBRA vs SHELL 6:30 pm
Oct 27	FEDEX vs COKE 7:20 pm
Dec 11	JULIO IGLESIAS CONCERT
Dec 25	DISNEY ON ICE : Princess Classics

For tickets, call TicketNet at 911-5555

POWER PLANT CINEMA
ROCKWELL CENTER, MAKATI CITY TEL. NO. 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL

OPEN WATER PG13 12:00,2:00,4:00, 6:00,8:00,10:00	SHARK TALE GP 12:20,2:20,4:20, 6:20,8:20,10:20	WHITE CHICKS PG13 12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00
WIMBLEDON PG13 12:30,2:50,5:10,7:30,9:50	PUNISHER 2 R13 12:00,2:30,5:00,7:30,10:00	SHARK TALE GP 1:40,3:40

MATINEE SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM • P80 • MON. TO FRI.

MOVIE GUIDE
THEATER

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY : LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	HIBLA / MAPANUKSO
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	KAULAYAW
B	CLOSED
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1, 2, 3 & 4	LADDER 49 / SHARK TALE / THREE / FLYING DAGGERS
PREMIERE THEATRE	SKY CAPTAIN

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	SECRET WINDOW
CINEMA-2	CRISANTA, IBA KA
CINEMA-3	SECRETARY
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	RAISING HELEN
CINEMA-6	VIP ROOM (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-7	EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
CINEMA-8	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SHARKS TALE
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	PUNISHER
CINEMA-12	OPEN WATER
CINEMA-14	WIMBLEDON
CINEMA-15	FENG SHUI

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

(LAS PINAS)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-1	FENG SHUI
CINEMA-2	DODGEBALL
CINEMA-4	TERMINAL

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

SHANG CINEPLEX

① LADDER 49 (PG-13)
② SHARK TALE (GP)
③ THREE (R-13)
④ HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS (PG-13)

PREMIERE THEATRE SKY CAPTAIN (Subject to MTRCB Rating)

For more information please call 633-2227 / 633-7851 loc. 171
Shangri-La Plaza

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

ClickTheCity.com
CTC MOV EASTWOOD
send to 2333 for Globe and 225 for Smart

For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1	SHARK TALE 10:55, 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 10:00 GP
2	LADDER 49 FOR SCREENING SCHEDULE PLS. CALL 687-6963 PG 13
3	SKY CAPTAIN FOR SCREENING SCHEDULE PLS. CALL 687-6963
4	HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGER 11:25, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:30 PG 13

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND • EX
NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1 THE PUNISHER
11:35, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15
R13

CINEMA 2 SHARK TALE
11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 10:00
GP

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM

October 15 & 16	ALL ALL ABOUT MEN (PENIS TALKS)	8:30PM
October 22 & 23	"The Repeat" MENOPAUSE The Musical	8:00PM

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

MOVIEWORLD
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
CINEMA ACCESS FOR ALL BRANCHES 635-5555
Visit us: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

TOP MOVIE THEATER
22nd Annual National Consumer's Quality Award 2004
Family Consumers Choice Award 2003

NOW SHOWING

GALLERIA 632-9115 to 16

CINEMA 1 THX LADDER 49

2 LADDER 49	3 THREE	4 SHARK TALE
5 SKY CAPTAIN	6 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	7 OPEN WATER
8 WIMBLEDON	9 RESIDENT EVIL 2	10 THE PUNISHER

Regular Price: P150 THX / P100/70 for two levels cinemas / P100 for one level cinemas

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 LADDER 49

2 SHARK TALE	3 SKY CAPTAIN	4 THREE
5 WIMBLEDON	6 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	7 RESIDENT EVIL 2

METRO EAST 682-8193/99 / 682-8280

1 WIMBLEDON	5 SHARK TALE
2 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	6 LADDER 49
3 FENG SHUI	7 THREE
4 SKY CAPTAIN	8 RESIDENT EVIL 2

NOVALICHES 935-3229 / 31

1 THE PUNISHER	5 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
2 RESIDENT EVIL 2	6 THREE
3 FENG SHUI	7 LADDER 49
4 SHARK TALE	8 SKY CAPTAIN

Citisquare MALABON 288-0985/2575

1 THE PUNISHER	3 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
2 FENG SHUI	4 SHARK TALE

CAINTA 240-4661

1 LADDER 49	3 SHARK TALE
2 THREE	4 OPEN WATER

They Walk. They Talk. They Kill.
THE DOLL MASTER
KOREA'S ALL-TIME BOX OFFICE HORROR CHAMP

CINEMAS

DOLL MASTER SEARCH
Dress Up Your Doll Contest & Exhibit
October 19 to 26, 2004

A contest to the best dressed doll shall be conducted. Entries shall be exhibited at Robinsons Movieworld Galleria cinema lobby

ADVANCE SCREENING
October 19, 2004 8 • 7:30PM
Robinson Movieworld Cinema 6

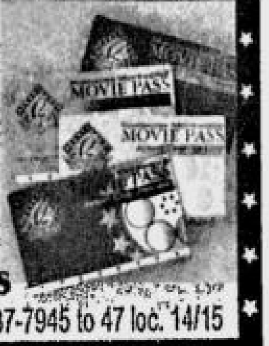
Tune in to Wave 89.1 and get a chance to win FREE movie invites.

*Awarding of winners for Doll Master Search : Dress Up Your Doll Contest shall be announced before the Movie.

OCTOBER 20

The Perfect Gift All Year Round
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.
Get Special discounts for volume purchases!
Robinsons Movieworld Prepaid Pass
For inquiries please call: Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 loc. 14/15

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.



Romeo, Juliet and kung fu

From page A2-1

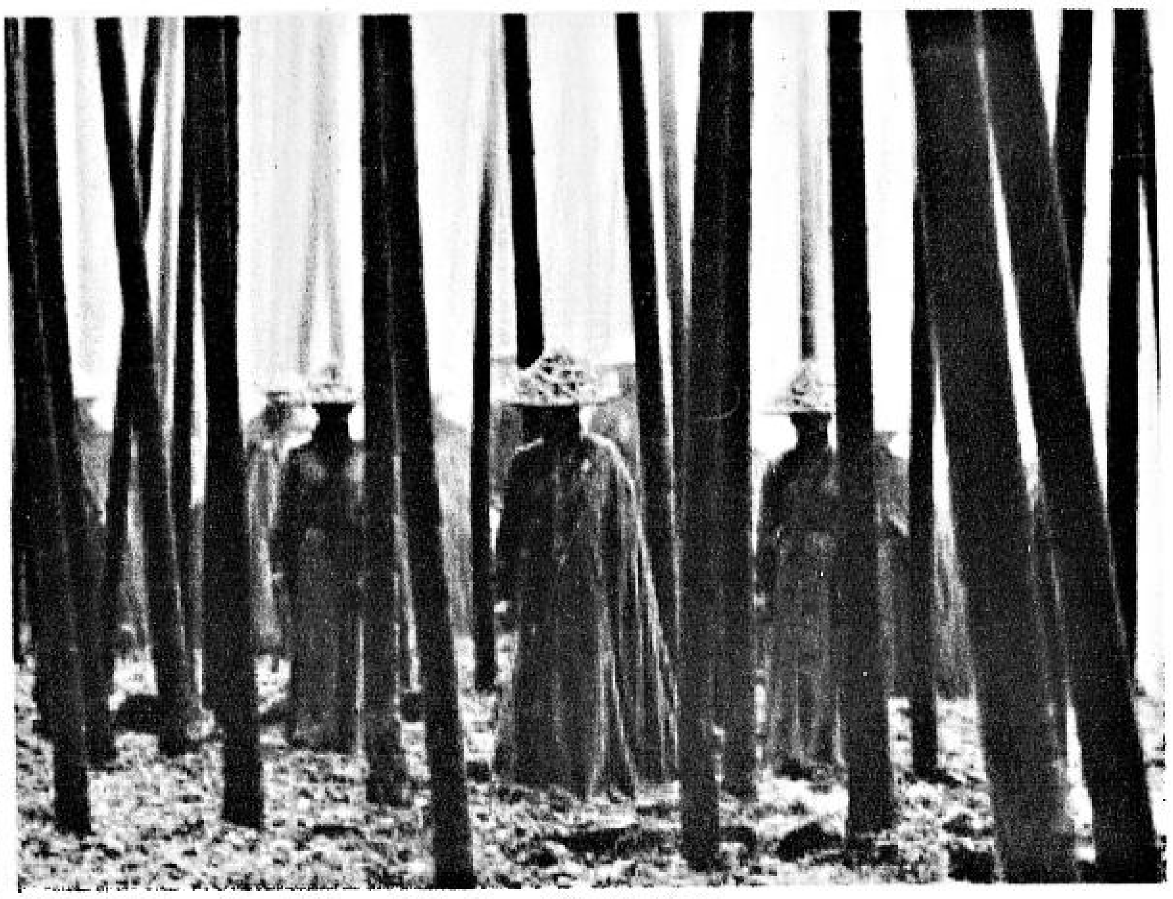
a game designed to uncover her political leanings. Thus flushing out a dancing Flying Dagger, Leo threatens the pretty amazon with torture if she fails to reveal the organization's whereabouts. On cue, Jin turns up and "rescues" her. The intervention baffles Mei, but she runs off with him and they journey through the woods in search of the nearest Daggers stronghold.

Strange feelings blossom between them in the days that they spend together. But there's more to every single character in this tale than meets the eye. When heart-breaking truths are told, Mei and Jin must cast off their star-crossed attraction and revert to their original allegiances.

Rich palette

"House of Flying Daggers" is a visual feast that challenges the viewer to stay put, despite unending intricate martial arts sequences and, expectedly, dizzying camera work. As with "Hero," Zhang executes these with a rich palette of colors that functions as a code, setting certain scenes apart from others.

A green motif envelops one forest setting and flows into another with mostly yellow fallen leaves. This is followed by a bright orange realm and, finally, a massive white field. The deliberate use of color also figures heavily in the costumes.



EYE CANDY. Zhang Yimou's "House of Flying Daggers" is a visual feast

Made to unfold within the era's volatile political make-up, and with the obligatory fancy blades and bloodthirsty revenge and retribution angles, the love story is really simple. We all know how tragically a forbidden union could end. It's no "Hero," to be sure; the two movies are apples and oranges.

Nothing truly deep or multi-layered is explored here, save perhaps the lovers' dilemma, which nevertheless runs short of urgency. Whenever there is a pause, presumably to examine the would-be couple's predicament, the moment inevitably turns into a drag. Let's not even consider another character thrown into the mix to form a love triangle; then it gets distracting.

Even so, "House of Flying Daggers" is finely executed in many respects. The fantasy element still lends strength to numerous incredible/impossible scenes, such as when Mei's dance sends her 10-foot-long sleeves powerfully pounding some raised drums.

Over all, while not exactly something that everybody would appreciate, "House of Flying Daggers" is a memorable enough effort that should be seen at least once.

ABS CBN's concert "Ryan Cayabyab: The Music Man at 50" holds a press conference at the Century Park Hotel, the official residence of the concert which is on Oct. 15 and 16 at the Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo of the CCP. With Cayabyab (third from left) are (from left) ABS special projects director Mickey Muñoz, CPH marketing director Angel Suntay, CPH banquet sales manager Abbey Villarta, and CPH communications and media manager Toti Palileo.

MARKET! MARKET!
Bonifacio Global City

DISCOVER THOUSANDS OF FINDS. HAGGLE FOR GREAT BUYS. EXPERIENCE ALL THESE IN A VAST AIR-CONDITIONED, CLEAN, SECURE, AND SAFE SHOPPING ENVIRONMENT.

The fun is in the finds

cinemas! cinemas!
CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE : 886-7515

1	SHARK TALE
2	THE PUNISHER
3	WIMBLEDON
4	OPEN WATER
5	RESIDENT EVIL
6	FENG SHUI
7	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY

- Movies are subject to change without prior notice.

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc. Another retail innovation.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
Telephone: 633.2227 / 633.7851 loc. 171
PREMIERE THEATRE
(DOLBY) SKY CAPTAIN
1 (DOLBY) LADDER 49 PG-13
2 (DOLBY) SHARK TALE GP
3 (DOLBY) THREE R-13
4 (DOLBY) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS PG-13

SUPER CINERAMA
isetann
CINERAMA COMPLEX RECTO
tel 733.4238
1. (DOLBY) RESIDENT EVIL
2. PUNISHER
3. SHARK TALE
4. WINBLEDON
5. CRISANTA... IBĂ KA

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 RESERVE
4 (SDDS) RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 (DOLBY) RESERVE
7 (DTS) RESERVE
8 RESERVE
9 RESERVE

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 PUNISHER
2 MGA BABAE SA VIP ROOM

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) MGA BABAE SA VIP ROOM
2 CRISANTA... IBA KA
3 THE EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
4 (DTS) MIND HUNTERS

Filinvest
FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) SHARK TALE
2 (SDDS) OPEN WATER
3 (DTS) THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
4 GOLD (DTS) SHARK TALE
5 GOLD (DOLBY) PUNISHER
6 GOLD (SDDS) PUNISHER
7 GOLD (DOLBY) RESIDENT EVIL
8 (ROAD) FENG SHUI
9 (ROAD) RAISING HELEN
10 (ROAD) RESIDENT EVIL

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 SHARK TALE
2 PUNISHER
3 RESIDENT EVIL

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 PUNISHER
2 MGA BABAE SA VIP ROOM
3
4

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007
1 (DOLBY) DOOMS DAY
2

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) SHARK TALE
2 (DOLBY) LADDER 49
3 (DOLBY) SKY CAPTAIN
4 (DOLBY) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT
Araneta Center
ALIMALL CINEPLEX
Tel 911-3101 loc 8242 / 8281 / 8397
3 (Dolby) SKY CAPTAIN
4 (SDDS) LADDER 49
5 (DTS) FLYING DAGGERS
6 (Dolby) SHARK TALE
7 (Dolby) FENG SHUI

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 RESIDENT EVIL
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) PUNISHER
5 SHARK TALE

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285
1 RESIDENT EVIL
2 CRISANTA... IBA KA
3 WIMBLEDON
4 FENG SHUI
5 (DOLBY) PUNISHER
6 SHARK TALE

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE